F/Rev. 100/08
S/Rev. 1 & 2

1908
(Agriculture)

Sub:- Report of the finance (FAMINE) conference held on the 7th December 1908

G. R. S. 58
Previous references.

File No. 100-

1908.

Serial Nos. 1 and

(Agriculture

Later references.

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1 and 2

Part B. for January 1909

SUBJECT.

Report of the Famine conference held on the 7 December 1908"

1 To the Secretary Govt Pres. No: R 4074 d 22-12
Forwards a copy of the Proceedings of the conference for being laid in type and forwarding 2 clean proofs to this for approval-

812. To the Heads of Departments.
No: R 4878 to 4914 d 17-12-08.
Forwards copies of the Proceedings of the Conference for distribution to officers.

GPB.—8,000—7-4-07.

G.R.S.11] 1908./9

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(Agri

NOTES.

File No. 100/08-

FILE HEADING.

Report of the Famine Conference held on the 7th December 1908.

From

No. Dated Received

Diary No. | Enclos. Spare Copies | Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

NOTES—First sheet

Summary of subjects to be discussed at the Famine Conference to be held on Monday the 7th December 1908.

-:{{{{{{{{{{o{{{o{{{{{{:-

I. Opening remarks by Dewan.

II. Determination of affected tracts, their area, population and percentage of people who may stand in need of the different kinds of relief, viz.,

(a) Loans and advances of various kinds, including loans to industrial classes;

(b) gratuitous relief;

(c) employment on works for wages.

III. Drinking water for men and cattle.

How many permanent and temporary wells required in the affected area.

IV. Fodder.

Number of cattle in affected area

(a) not requiring any special provision;

(b) to be supplied with fodder in the village;

(c) to be sent to forests.

What forests should cattle from each tract be sent?

V. Relief works.

(a) Whether village works or public works should be chiefly relied on in the particular area.

(b) Lists of village and public works, their cost and the order in which they should be taken up.

VI. Agency.

1. Class I Superior II Inferior { a. Official. b. Non-official.

2. Purpose A. For supervision & protection
(a. D.P.W.
(b. Medical.
(c. Police.
(d. Additional.
(e. civil staff.

B. For grant of loans.

C. For distribution of gratuitous relief.

3. The system on which officials and non-officials should be selected, the departments from which officials are to be selected, the remuneration and training to be given to both officials and non-officials.

VII. Tools.

(1) Estimate of the tools that will be required in the different Districts, Talukwar.

(2) Need for boring instruments, pumps, engines and plant for tube wells.

VIII. Financial.

A. Amounts that will be required under different heads for -

(i) Relief

(a) Takavi and other loans, including loans for the relief of distress, purchase of fodder and for the relief of industrial classes;

(b) gratuitous relief;

(c) public works of all kinds (Civil and D.P.W.).

(ii) Establishment.

B. Remissions and suspensions of revenue -

(i) remission of half wet and garden assessment on all lands under tanks, springs and wells which received no water for irrigation and under which no crops were raised, and suspension of remaining half of the assessment on these lands as well as of dry assessment.

(ii) Remission of Hulbanni due to Government.

(iii) Remission of grazing fees collected by the Forest Department.

(iv) Remission of license fee for collecting firewood in forests.

(v) Remission of Mohatarfa in villages in the case of persons coming in the ~~last~~ last class under the Mohatarfa Rules.

C. (1) Advances to be given to Village Officers.

(2) Payment to Thotis. - On what principle should such payments be made.

IX. A. Employment of literate people who cannot be expected to do manual labour to write accounts &c.

B. Employment of Gosha women in grinding ragi &c.

X. Arrangements for securing adequate and regular supply of grains at all the markets without interfering with trade.

XI. Mr. Ananda Rao Sirsi to be deputed to instruct Sheikdars and other subordinate officers in their famine duties.

XII. Employment of men in the Sheikdari and Engineering schools on famine duty -

i) as additional Sheikdars or Circle Inspectors,

ii) in supervising civil works.

XIII. Attaching an Engineer officer to each District to supervise civil works.

XIV. Printing of Forms required under the Famine Code and under the Takavi Rules.

-:::::::o:::::::-

Serial No.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

10.12.08

My dear Matthan

I have sent herewith the Proceedings of the Conference held on Sunday. I have had to give an abstract account of all the points we discussed the other day. There is a certain amount of repetition but I have

Serial No.

Letter for Mr. Chandrasekhara Aiyar

I think it is in the file in which the Dewan's opening speech was submitted to the Council

9.12.08

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

PĀTAN BHAVAN,
BANGALORE.

Dear Mr. Chandrasekhara Aiyar,

The Dewan desires that the Famine Conference Note (full report) may be printed including Dewan's opening speech. He would like the report in proof

Yours sincerely
[illegible]

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agn File No. 107 of 190 Y

Serial No.

be printed (including Dewan's speech). He wishes to see the report in proof." [19.12.08]

Secretary :-

"Let it go to Press today."

(Sd.) Hles.
21.12.08.

Under Secretary :-

"I think it is in the file in which the Progs. of the Rev. Comrs Conference have been submitted to His Highness for orders."

(Sd.) P. G. D.
21.12.08.

The report ~~was~~ ~~given~~ ~~late~~ could not be sent to Press yesterday as a copy of it was obtained late in the evening. Subd. with a draft letter to the Supdt., Govt Press

PR
22.12.08

Jmc
22.12.08

Dewan's Speech not available in the 23rd but has been sent today - 23-12-08

(11) To

The Supdt. Govt Press

No. R4074.D/22-12-08.

Forwards a copy of the Progs. of the Famine Conference and requests that they may be sent in type and proofs subd. at an early date for approval.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13.5.08

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agri File No. 160 of 1908

Serial No.

Mysore
22nd December
1908.

Sir,

As directed by Mr. Mathew, I beg to send herewith a duplicate copy of the Dewan's address to the Conference in compliance with your telegram of date.

Note—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

G. R. S. 14]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agri — File No. 150 of 1908

6

Serial No.	
	Submitted with Corrected proof copy of the Proceedings of the Famine Conference. [The Dewan's address is not printed from the authoritative copy which was given Submission to His Highness. It requires therefore to be compared again]
	P.R. 28-12-08 — Interview with the Dewan

H. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. [illegible] of 190[illegible]

Serial No.

Please see carefully over my remarks & incidentally also the remarks & then also you may order the [illegible] printing of the Conference note.

Are my suggestions noted & implemented?

31/10/1908

Please see this
Mr. Secy

Yes. I have suggested [illegible]

Issue the instructions as are being [illegible]

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

Serial No.

Dear Sir,

In reply to the Despatch
quoting on the file (Agri. 100-04)
regarding the report of the
Conference held on the 7th
Dec 04, whether the suggestion
when are being framed, I
am to state that they
are to permit. The proof
of the Proceedings after

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agri File No. 150 of 1908

9

Serial No.	
	Printed copies of the Procs. of the Famine Conference have been received from the Press. Subd. for orders as to whether they may be distributed to the Various officers [with a caution that the Procs. contain both the views of the members of the Conference and not necessarily of the Govt].
	Subd. RR 7.1.09. BK 7/1/09 Distribute with reference to the note in which approval for the total Rs 7 lacs has been applied. In the total it is stated that Rs will be distributed: and Rs to Hs Excys Bombay with sufficient share which enable them to distribute them to their subordinate Officers. a 7.1.09
	Subd. with a draft for approval. RR 9.1.09. BK 9/1/09 Issue a 9.1.09
9	To All heads of Depts & D.C's of Dists Nos R. 4878 to 4914 & 17.1.09 — Forwards copies of the Procs of the Fami

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—18-5-08

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agri File No. 100 of 1908/9

19

Serial No.	
	Conference requests that they may be distributed amongst the Officers subordinate to them for their information.
	The copies have been sent to Heads of Depts & Dy Comrs of Dts as per list ~~of Dts attached to the draft. Agri 100/08~~.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13·5·08

Urgent

Apr. 100-08

G.R.S. 26]

File No.

Serial No. 1

Diary No. of letter replied to

No. R4074

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

, *the* 190 .

To

The Supdt. of the
Govt Press.

Date of issue 22/12/08

Signed by mr PG.O

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a copy of the Proceedings of the Conference held in the Public Office Writers Bldgs on the 7th Dec and to request that it may be set in type and two clean proofs sent to this office for approval at a very early date.

I have &c

for Secy
22/12/08

ver.

SUBJECT.

Gentlemen,

You know that we have met here with a view to concerting measures for dealing with a severe scarcity which will deepen into famine if the early rains of next year are not as seasonable and full as usual.

The season of the previous year was unfavourable and the harvest was deficient. This year the South-West monsoon was irregular and deficient, ~~(which)~~ added to the failure of the North East monsoon and the consequent shortage of crops, and particularly the failure of the tank filling rains, has made the situation rather critical. The prices of food grains have also gone up nearly double of what they were in the scarcity of 1891-92. The cattle are the greatest sufferers and they have been taken in large numbers to the malnad tracts, and to the reserved forests in the State.

The poorer raiyats and also the Holeyars and Madigas in villages seem to have left for the malnad and coffee plantations in search of work in larger numbers than usual, particularly from Nagamangala, parts of Mandya taluk, Kunigal and Tiptur.

The question we have to consider is what are the measures that should be adopted to find work for the labouring population and fodder and water for the cattle. I may note here that the Swati rains in the last week of October and early part of November appeared to be favourable, and we were in hopes that if these were followed by the Visakha rains, all ground for anxiety would have disappeared. But when we found that the North East monsoon held back, the Revenue Commissioner at once started on a tour to see the state of things for himself, and set on foot the measures necessary for meeting the threatened

distress.

I may tell you briefly, the action taken by the Government from the time that it became clear to them that the season was going to be an unfavourable one. The Government ordered ~~that~~ the District officers to supply them with daily information as to the rainfall and other local conditions. The Government have kept a careful watch over the progress of the season and have sanctioned grant as shewn below.

A sum of Rs.90,750 was sanctioned in the first instance for being advanced to raiyats under the Land Improvement Loans Regulation and the Takavi rules, and a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 for earth works to minor tanks. A sum of Rs.20,000 has also been sanctioned for such works as sinking drinking water wells and improving village sanitation. The amounts provided for loans under Land Improvement Loans Regulation and the Takavi Rules and for drinking water wells are said to have been fully utilized, as also half the sum sanctioned for advances to raiyats to do earth work to minor tanks. An additional sum of Rs.1,00,000 has been provided for loans under the Land Improvement Regulation etc., and a sum of Rs.50,000 for local fund works. A sum of Rs.20,000 has been granted for providing gratuitous relief to the old and the inform. Rs.30,000 have been sanctioned for advances for the relief of weavers and other industrial

classes

classes. Extra allowances have been sanctioned on account of the high prices of food stuffs to certain classes of officials on ~~the~~ civil establishments in the Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur, Kadur and Shimoga Districts, and it is under contemplation to extend the concession to the other districts and to the officials of the Public Works and Military Departments.

Sometime after the Revenue Commissioner had started on tour, I also made a tour on two different occasions visiting the affected tracts in the Hassan, Chitaldrug, Shimoga, Mysore and Tumkur Districts and parts of the Kolar and Bangalore Districts. I was every where struck with the poorness of the harvests, in some places the dry crops having withered altogether, and no attempts having been made to grow wet crops. Barring a few tanks which had received a supply in the phenomenally heavy rain that fell in a few tracts in the latter part of October, the tanks as a rule were more or less dry. Cattle were being driven in large numbers mostly from parts of Nagamangala Taluks, Mandya Taluk, and the central and western parts of the Tumkur District towards the jungles of Heggaddevankote and Gundlepet Lakkavalli, Benkipur and ather forests and also towards

the Bukkapatna forest. Before we proceed to other measures we have first to devise measures for providing fodder and water for the cattle until the next mungar rains come. I noticed some cattle which had been taken to the Bukkapatna forest returning to a village in Tiptur owing to difficulty of water in the Bukkapatna and surrounding forests. There was also apparently delay in the communication of orders throwing the reserved forests open to free garzing. The District Forest Officer Mr. Sreenivasa Rao assured the men that every facility would be given for water ~~for~~ by digging holes and opening out springs, and that the Bukkapatna forest alone was capable of accommodating 20,000 head of cattle . I am sure that this fact has been made public. The ryots of Tiptur and adjoining Taluks will find sufficient water and fodder for

for their cattle in the Nukkapatna and adjoining forests, the Conservator has promised to give every facility for cutting grass in the reserved forests, and for transporting compressed grass to the different railway stations in the affected tracts. I am sure he will be able to explain to us what measures have been adopted by him in the way of providing fodder for cattle in the different State forests in which cattle have been driven by the ryots. It will be a good arrangement if the Forest officers of the locality could, with the help of the local Revenue Officers, instruct the ryots bringing cattle where to go for fodder and water.

As regards the measures of relief of different kinds, to be adopted, you have been already supplied with a memo of the points that will be discussed at this conference. I hope we shall be able to arrive at some decision as to the lines on which we should proceed.

One point I should lay stress upon at this stage, and that is the desirability of enlisting the co-operation of village, Taluk and District Committees in every kind of relief that will be administered, and particularly gratuitous relief. What struck me in the short tours that I have made in connection with the present distress is the interest members of the Taluk and District Boards, and particularly members of the Representative Assembly evince in measures connected with the relief of distress, and the readiness with which they come forward to help the Government officials in making the relief measures

effective and making them reach the classes most in need of them. I would request the District Officers to enlist as largely as possible the help and co-operation of -- this non-official and representative ----- element.

We will now proceed to take up the points put down for discussion.

Proceedings of the Conference held in the Public Office Buildings on 7th December 1908.

Present.

V. P. Madhava Rao, Esquire, B.A., C.I.E, Dewan (presiding).

T. Ananda Rao, Esquire, B.A., First Councillor.

K. P. Puttanna Chetty, Esquire, Second Councillor.

A. Ramsgasami Iyengar, Esquire, B.A.B.L.

E. Maconochie, Esquire, I.C.S.
K.S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar Esquire B.A; B.L.
J. S. Chakravarti, Esquire, M.A., F.R.A.S,

Lt.-Col. J. Smyth, I.M.S.

W. McHutchin, Esquire,

H. H. Sparkes, Esquire,

D. Devaraja Urs, Esquire,

M. Muthannah, Esquire.

B. J. Kumaraswami Naik, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore

M. Chengiah Chetty, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Chitaldrug.

K. R. Srinivasiengar, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Kadur.

C. Srikanteswara Aiyar, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

K. Chandy, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga.

K. S. Dorasami Iyer, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur.

P.R.W. Wetherall, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Hassan.

C. Narayana Rao, Esquire, Mysore.

- - - - -

Dewan. (Reads his introductory speech).

The first question for us to

to consider is the determination of the affected tracts, their area, population, etc.

Revenue Commissioner. We are not quite ready at this stage with information as to the precise area of the affected tracts. We may roughly say what portions of taluks are affected. Generally speaking, I think in the Bangalore District the principal portion is in the Solur and other hoblis to the north of the Kunigal road that is, the portion where the Deputy Commissioner recommended test works. In the Tumkur District, the principal portions are - the Kunigal taluk, the Turuvekere Sub taluk, portions of Tiptur and portions of two hoblis of Tumkur taluk, and almost the whole of the Pavagada taluk and parts of Sira and Maddagiri. In the Hassan District Chennarayapatna and Arsikere taluks, and the Deputy Commissioner says some

some portions of Belur on the Halebid side are also affected.

In the Kadur District, it is only the Kadur taluk that is chiefly affected an the northern side of it. In the Chikmagalur taluk also a few villages are badly off.

In the Shimoga District, the Deputy Commissioner has not indicated the tracts clearly, but it seems that portions of Chennagiri and Shimoga taluks are affected.

In the Chitaldrug District, we have got the Hosdurga taluk, portions of Hiriyur and Chellakere, and Davangere and a few villages round about.

In the Mysore District, the Nagamangala taluk generally and Basarhalli and Maglur hoblis in the Mandya Taluk.

First Councillor. Is not Sira affected?

Revenue Commissioner. Not the whole of it, but portions of it here and there. Sira had some

some rains lately.

Dewan. It is so difficult to give a general description of the affected tracts, because within a few furlongs of a place (where one set of condition prevails) there may be a different state of things.

Are we in possession of information as regards the percentage of people who might stand in need of the different kinds of relief?

Revenue Commissioner. Some instructions have been given for collecting the requisite information according to the directions laid down in the Famine Code. I do not think that the Shekdars and other village officers have completed the work. It is in the course of compilation and from what Mr. Dorasami Iyer and Mr. Srikanteswara Iyer told me, the information will be ready by the 15th of this month.

When I went on tour, I also made it a point to examine everywhere the crop reports in the Pahani registers, where the area sown in entered. But the village officials do not know how to enter the proportionate yield and they are not therefore able to give the details, from which the total out-turn might be calculated, at the end of the register. I instructed them how to do it. When this is done, they will be able to give the entire details exactly.

Dewan.

That information also will be ready by the 15th of this month, I believe.

Revenue Commissioner.

Yes. Both the Khaneshumari and the Pahani registers will be ready.

Kumaraswami Naik.

I do not think it will be ready in my District. Detailed information cannot be given as to the actual estimate of the wet crops - both Mungar and Hingar. In the localities visited

visited by me I have made some rough estimates but these are mostly for my information.

Mr. Chandy. In my District also, it will take two or three weeks more to get the information. But perhaps a rough estimate may be given now.

Mr. Srinivasiengar. We may form some estimate of the Mungar crop now, but have to wait till February for the Hingar crop. Even now the people think that if there is some rain some of these crops will be saved.

Revenue Commissioner. According to the instructions issued by me you may give the approximate estimates as regards both the irst and the second crops now, and erify these estimates by the results f the subsequent inspection to be made n February. I have not had time to heck the Pahani inspection in the angalore District, but the same method ay also be adopted there.

Dewan. In order to calculate the number of the people in need of relief no actual inspection of individual cases is required; but it is sufficient to adopt the standard fixed in the Code and the numbers may then be calculated easily.

Revenue Commissioner. This may be done within a week.

Dewan. Now we go to the sub item, viz loans and advances of various kinds including loans to industrial classes. What is the allotment under these heads made to the Districts? Have you got figures for these?

Revenue Commissioner. We know what we have allotted; but that will not given any idea of the actual requirements for the season. We now go on the principle of giving as much as is demanded just to test the existing conditions.

Dewan. Have any Districts taken action under the head "Loans to industrial

industrial classes?

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. The grants allotted to my district are Rs.26,015 for loans under "Land Improvement etc" and Rs.2,000 for weavers. Of these I have sanctioned for loans for irrigation wells Rs.9100; Rs.4,015 have already been spent in Chellakere and Molakalmuru. I have applied for another additional grant. I have also given loans of about Rs. 2,350 for other purposes of land improvement, and Takavi advances to the extent of Rs.1,150 for purchase of fodder, of bullocks etc.

Dewan. Are advances given for the purchase of bullocks also? Is it necessary to give these advances now? There is no cultivation going on. How will the ryots be able to maintain these bullocks?

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. In the forest we have got grass as also in Marikanve. We have

have been allowing grass to be cut and removed freely without any payment.

The only question to be decided is about advances for subsistence allowance to the people. We have not yet commenced it. But there are many applications for it.

Dewan. Is this a proper kind of relief allowed by the Rules?

Rev. Commissioner. Yes. There is provision for it in the Rules.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. If only we begin to advance amounts for subsistence, about Rs.10 lakhs will be required in My district alone, It is necessary therefore to impose some limit.

Rev. Commissioner. Take the Khaneshmari and see if all those applicants are really in need. Also see that you give it only to land-holders.

In

Mr. K. R. Sreenivasiengar. In my district I have already commenced giving loans of this description. I have done so on certain definite principles. I have made rigid enquiries as to how far the applicants have been unfit to earn their livelihood. To those who are agriculturists, loans are given on the security of their lands. Suppose a family consists of an old man, a woman and children, and the old man ø is not able to go and work for his livelihood, either from old age, infirmity or any other sufficient cause. Or suppose the occupant is a woman. In such cases I advance Rs.5 or 6 per month, in no case exceeding Rs.20/-. In this way up to now I have spent about Rs.200. I explained to the ryots the grounds on which such loans would be given and they were quite satisfied with the procedure.

In

Mr. Dorasami Iyer. In my district also there were about 1041 applicants for these loans, from men who had seen better days. They all wanted Takavi advances at Kunigal to buy fodder etc.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. Lately I also issued a circular to all my Amildars stating that the concession will be given only to land-holders and specifying the four classes of these to whom relief would be given. These are:-

(1) The infirm and the aged who cannot work for their living.

(2) Respectable people who cannot be made to work on roads and tanks

(3) Widows with children w ho cannot earn their livelihood by going to work

(4) Men who have got kapila wells but who cannot go outside for work.

I calculated the amount required

required on the basis that each family consists of five members and 72 rupees will be required for them for six months.

Dewan. Suppose every cultivating ryot applies for a loan. What would be the amount required?

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. We give only to those who cannot go to work, I think about Rs.10,000 will be required in the affected parts in the Chitaldrug District. I have got applications for about one lakh of rupees from all the Taluks, and even if these loans are given all over the district, not more than Rs.30,000 will be required.

Dewan. I think that for the present we may accept the principle that the infirm and the aged and women who cannot be made to go and work should be given loans if they are able to furnish

furnish sufficient landed security. What would the amount required for these loans be, and what if even able-bodied agriculturists, who are not willing to go to work have to be similarly assisted? These loans may greatly reduce the necessity for gratuitous relief on any extended scale.

Rev. Commissioner. We may be able to collect these figures in a week

Comptroller. Loans should be given to agriculturists for maintainin g themselves when they are actually working in thei fields, and not when they are free to take up other work. In the latter cas they must be made to go and work . Otherwise we shall be practically anticipating the grant of gratuitous relief and departing from the provisions of the Famine code.

Dewan. In the United Provinces they found it necessary to depart considera bly

considerably from the provisions of the Famine Code and the question simpl is whether by doing so we shall be able to relieve distress and help the people better.

Comptroller. But it is certainly objectionable to spend money in maintaining people who are able to work.

Dewan. We give loans expecting to mount. There is no loans indiscrimi- i out from the experience of Deputy Commissioners as to who are the people that are likely to apply for these loans.

Mr. Wetherall. In an application that was received in the Arsikere Taluk, landed ~~property~~ security was required to be given and the applicant withdrew it. There have been a number of other applications

applicationsbut these require investigation. It is doubtful if any persons not really in need will come forward for such loans, as they have to furnish landed security.

Mr. Narayan Rao.(Mysore) — We had 200 applications for subsistence allowance.

Rev. Commissioner. — It is necessary to give these loans as it will keep the agriculturists in their houses,and it is very important that they should be in a position to commence their field operations as soon as the rains fall. By giving loans to agriculturists we assist them in two ways.We help them to improve their lands and also enable them to maintain themselves until they are in a position to resume their ordinary ~~vocations~~ occupations. After all the amount required for each family cannot be large. Supposing it consists

of

of five members. When they do not all work they do not require the same quantity of food. A rupee or a rupee and a half would be a liberal allowance for each member per month. So we need not advance more than five rupees for each family. Many agriculturists do not go out on works until they reach almost the verge of starvation, and we should prevent that.

The loan will be repaid in two or three years. The agriculturists, with these loans and whatever crops they are able to save, will be able to maintain themselves; and in this way the number of people for whom Government will have to find employment will be reduced.

Comptroller. Do not many of the agriculturists in the State supplement their earnings by going out for work, and what objection can there be in requiring these people to go on the works? How are we to guard ourselves against unnecessary advances? For, if each application is granted the total amount to be provided for will be something enormous, and it will not be possible for the Deputy Commissioners to differentiate between the really ~~ned~~ needy and the rich. Some may borrow money simply to lend it out.

Revenue Commissioner. Most landholders and even "waram" cultivators live on the produce of their own lands. They do not seek other work.

It is

is these people who have to be mostly assisted. Even if they are made to go on works, their dependents will have to be supported. They cannot be prevented from coming. No one is likely to mortgage his lands unless it is absolutely necessary; and as no large amount will be advanced there is no risk that any money-lending cultivators will take these loans.

Mr. K.R.Srinivasa Iyengar. My experience is that people are not ready to ask for this kind of relief It is the man who is really pinched that comes forward for it. One villager assured me that in all their villages there will not be more than two or -- three families coming and seeking aid. Especially as lands are demanded as collateral security for the loans given the ryots are not as ready to come forward as otherwise they would perhaps have done.

Mr. Doraswami Iyer I got applications to the value of Rs.68,115 from 1041 people for Takavi

Takavi advances and for land improvement and irrigation and irrigation well to the value of Rs.1,31,000.

Three fourths of these applications are from Tiptur, Kunigal, Gubbur and Mayasandra. My impression is that as far as the agriculturists are concerned they are averse to go on works. They merely want something to keep them on. Loans for the maintenance of agriculturists answer this purpose best. We need not press money on the ryots but must comply with all reasonable demands. Many of the applications for loans are made without any regard for any necessities. Such applications are easily -- found out and rejected. The necessity to provide adequate landed security will greatly reduce the number of the applications.

Revenue Commissioner

As the Dewan remarked in the opening address, organised committees will be able to give us help in discriminating between deserving and undeserving cases. The

The respectable ryots of the neighbourhood working with the Amildar or the Assistant Commissioner will be able to say how much can be given to the different applicants.

Dewan

I think the rules for advances on account of irrigation wells and land improvement are very clear and definite and no supplemental instructions are necessary. But it is only with regard ~~to~~ to adavances for the subsistence~~s for of~~ the ryot and for fodder to cattle, that we have to lay down a definite policy. As regards advances for subsistence, all are agreed that it is necessary to make them to all persons who from age, bodily infirmity, or sex are unable to work even if they are not landholders, if ~~th~~ they are able to furnish proper security. It is only in the case of able-bodied persons that it is necessary to consider whether similar loans should be given and on what principles. Before passing any definite orders, we should know

know how much money we shall have to provide if loans are given to all agriculturists able to furnish security, whether they are physically capable or not. If the amounts are not large we may sanction them as some of these people may have to be relieved gratuitously later on.

Revenue Commissioner — As they may have saved some of their grain, it will not be necessary to give a loan to meet the entire expenses of subsistence. Those that can afford to borrow for sinking wells &c, will not require loans for subsistence. So if we calculate at 12 or 15 seers for each member on an average per month or a rupee and a quarter for each member it will be ample. Security may be taken for the whole amount to be advanced and the amount itself adavanced in instalments.

2nd Councillor. — Why not make it applicable to all ryots provided they have proper security?

Comptroller. — So long

long as there is, adequate security you may give advances. But the only thing is, we should not undertake anything like feeding say about 40 or 50 per cent of the population; because we have not got money to meet the expenditure. If you give loans to practically all ryots and land-holders for 5 or 6 --- months or if you want to feed half the population of Mysore where is the money to come from? Local officers have to decide as to how much of the population would come forward for loans.

Mr.Kumaraswami Naik — Those that cannot give security will go and work on the works. The advance will be limited to the affected area only.

Revenue Commissioner. — It is not the whole Province . Advance will be given only in the affected tracts which are about one-fourth portion of the Province or still less.

Comptroller. — If it is one-fourth, the amount will come to 15 lakhs.

Dewan — What is the number of patta holders in

in the State? At the rate of half a seer per member in a family of five members the amount advanced will be much less than that given out as wages .

Revenue Commissioner. It will never exceed Rs.25 or Rs. 30 per family. And before you commence to lend, it will be January.

Dewan Can you give figures for the affected tracts Mr. Kumaraswami Naik?

Mr. Kumaraswami Naik The affected tracts in my District are- Magadi, Channapatna, Kankanhalli, and Anekal and 23 villagesin the Bangalore Taluq or 244 villages in the entire tract with a population of 69000 and an area of 45 sq. miles.

And none of my people or cattle are going out.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty In my District the area of the affected tract is 1415 sq. miles with a population of 1,21,000

Mr. Srinivasaiengar. 400 sq. miles of my District with a population of about 70 or 75 thousand

Mr. Srikanteswara Iyer The affected area

Mr.Srinivasaraghava Iyer.

Taluks

miles with a total population of 1,61,000 of whom 18000 belong to the Industrial classes. For the purposes of our present enquiry, an agricultural population of 1,17,000.

Dewan

The maximum would be only 5 or 6 rupees per pattadar per month.

Mr.Puttann

Suppose a puttadar pays only 2 or Rs.3 assessment.

Dewan

Such people can go on works.

Comptroller

We cannot afford to give comparatively small loans to very small land holders. They must go on works. We may say that those who pay a revenue of so much and upwards will be given such loans and will be entitled to remain at home and employ labourers for works on their lands.

Dewan

Our assumption is that one family of Puttadars will require at least six rupees a month for six months i.e. Rs.36. If a puttadar has got property which is worth that amount an advance will be given.

Mr. Chandy.

Mr. Chandy Narayana Rao.

Pattadars is not large. I estimate the area of affected tract at 200 square miles.

The affected area in the Mysore District is about 225 sq.miles including that of Mandya, with a population of 66,000.

Mr. Dorasami Iyer.

The area of my district is about 3,000 sq.miles and practically the whole district is affected. (By rough calculation, it was found out that there would be 1½ lakhs of Pattadars in the affected area, exclusive of those paying an assessment of Rs.5.

Dewan

I think the understanding may be that we will decide on the loans to be given for subsistence and for fodder on the receipt of an estimate from you as to the number of persons that will require relief of that kind.

As for pattadhalders who are unable either from sex, age or infirmity to go on the relief works, there is no objection to advances being given to them on the security of their lands. The extension of this principle to

upon the estimates sent by you as to requirements and on the amount that the Government can afford for this kind of relief.

Comptroller. If you also lay down the maximum limit of kandayam which has to be paid by a person before he is eligible for a loan, it wouldbe better. The concession may be extended only to those who pay more than a certain amount and not less. I am only trying to lay down some restrictions by which the class to which this loan may be granted as muchas possible, say all those who ~~may~~ pay ten rupees will have to go on works and others may get loans.

Dewan. There is the security clause and I think that will be self adjusting.

Comptroller. Even the smallest holder will demand a loan proportionate to his holding. So the minimum of ~~the~~ the loan should be fixed.

Revenue Commissioner. The smaller holdings should be excluded altogether.

Comptroller — I still think both the maximum and the minimum may be fixed.

Revenue Commissioner, — We need not give loans for less than 15 Rupees. And when the lands are not worth Rs.15/- the smaller holdings will be automatically excluded and we need not give more than Rs.36 or 50.

Comptroller. — ~~That~~ That will be ~~self~~ self adjusting.

Dewan — Then may I take it that you are for fixing Rs.15/- as the minimum and Rs.50/- as the maximum.?

All agreed this.

Dewan. — But what about fodder? Do you propose to give loans for fodder also?

Reve.Com. — Cattle actually ~~are~~ worked and ~~as~~ use for kapile well should have also relief according to the actual number so employed.

Comptroller. — Let the District Officers give us an estimate and we shall consider the question afterwards . Perhaps the loan may be given on the same security.

Dewan — We have calculated on the bare

bare requirements of men and we could not combine this also with it. Support we say, subsistence for men or for fodder for cattle.

Rev.Comr. I think we will have to give relief in both cases. In any case, the security question has a bearing on this also. I don't think we need give advances for fodder in Shimoga Kadur and portions of Chitaldroog, Kunigal and Nagamangala may require-- require this concession chiefly.

Dewan. The question is whether we have to include it in this calculation or provide for it separately.

Rev.Comr. It will depend on the other facilities that may be provided for fodder.

Dewan What will a ryot require for feeding his cattle for six months? How many head of cattle can you allow under this?

Rev.Comr. I think a pair for each family.

Dewan What are the charges necessary for maintaining two bullocks and a

T.Srinivaseswara Iyer.

I the last season of scarcity we granted large advances at Davarcrn I gave as much as Rs.20/- for fodder, This year in Betamangala and other Hoblis of the Kolar District no man has yet taken more than Rs.10/- for the ~~whole~~ whole season. The ryot goes to the nearest place, brings fodder with the amount advanced and stocks it with him.

Comptroller. Then the loan may be fixed at an amount not exceeding Rs. 15/-.

Rev.Commr. Rs.20 may be maximum and nothing less than Rs. 10 need begiven.

Mr.Chandy. Then it will be Rs. 15 minimum and Rs 65/- maximum per pattadar on the sam security.

Dewan. Suppose there is demand only for fodder ; What is the rate you would allow to each pattadar?

Comptroller. No minimum need befixed.

Rev.Commr. I think minimum may be Rs. 10/ and maximum Rs. 20.

Comptroller. Yes. when a man applies for loan for fodder alone, a minimum may be fixed to minimise small accounts. That proposed by the Revenue Commissioner may beadopted.

(It was agreed that the minimum should be fixed at Rs. 10/- and the maximum at Rs. 20/-.

Dewan. Whatis the proportion put down for gratuitous relief?

Rev.Comr. Three per cent of the population in

in th

in the affected tracts . The population affected is 10 lakhs and so about 30,000 persons will have to be given gratuitous relief at the rate of about 10 or 15 seers a month. And the total amount of expenditure on this account will be Rs.2,20,000, the maximum amount for 6 months.

Dewan . , We will note this down for orders.

Comptroller. Perhaps there will be public kitchens also.

Rev. Commr. Yes.

Dewan. Whatis the number of people that will have to be given relief of all kinds?

Rev.Comr. We may take three per cent for the purpose of gratuitous relief and 5 per cent for loans, including those for dependents. Those who take loans will as a rule not require any other relief. The number to be actually given gratuitous relief or provided with work will be about 70000. These will have to be paid at the rate of four rupees per month per family. In this calculati

calculation we count for dependents also who will costless . So, if we pay at two annas per head per day it will cover all the expenditure of the family . Th e total cost works up to 2,80,000 a month or Rs. ------ Rs. 16,80, 000 for 6 months.

Dewan. Then we shall go to the next item drinking wells &c. How many permanent wells are required?

Revenue Commissioner. It will depend on the number of villages suffering from scarcity of water.

Mr.Chengiah Chetty. I have already spent Rs.13,500/- (sanctioned estimate) for 65 wells in in the affected area . I might require another 100 wells to be dug. Calculating at the above rate, I might require about Rs. 20,000 more.

Mr. K.R. Sreenivasaiengar. I have not got any figures here. But I think I have got about three or four thousand rupees from the District Funds and I ought to be able to manage to meet my requirements within that amount. If I only got another

five thousand rupees, I can meet all, requirements in this direction.

Mr. Sreekanteswara Iyer. I have dug 370 temporary wells at a cost of Rs. 18,000. I have got Rs. 13,000 and I may require another 20,000 Rs. to meet further needs.

Mr. Chandy. I require about Rs. 15,000.

Mr. Doraswami Iyer. I want Rs. 20,000 more or including the grant already sanctioned Rs. Rs. 32,000.

Mr. Wetherall. I require Rs. 8,000.

Dewan. We have already discussed the fodder question. We shall go on to the next item in the list viz, forests. You have heard, Mr. Muttannah, what I said in my opening speech in regard to the opinion of Mr. Sreenivasa Rao about the forest in his charge.

Conservator. I cannot say that the information given by Mr. Sreenivasarao is quite correct. There is absolutely no spring within the whole forest and the mini-ng people had to dig 300 ft. before they got water.

Dewan. I asked Mr. Sreenivasarao to give wide publicity to the facts mentioned by him and assure the local ryots also about the same.

Conservator. Outside the ~~&&&&&&&&&&&~~ forest perhaps you can find water but not inside. The question of water in these forests is of great importance to the cattle. I think we want a large number of wells in these forests. There is dry grass there though of inferior quality but no water.

Dewan. Have you made arrangements in consultation with the Dy. Commrs. to receive the cattle coming from the Districts?

Conservator. Yes. Every District Forest Officer has been informed. The Dy. Commrs. have asked me to open some forests in Tumkur, Chitaldrug and Kolar.

Rev. Comr. Mr. K.R. Sreenivasa Iyengar informs me that there is plenty of water and grass in the malnad forests near Koppa Kudremukh and that side. I think that if we can make arrangements for taking

charge of the cattle by the forest authorities and sending them by batches to forests where grass and water is available and also persuade the ryots of the neighbouring ~~xxxxx~~ villages to depute 4 or 5 people among them and go in charge of 50 or 100 head of cattle giving these people subsistence allowance, we shall be able to take care of the cattle effectively.

Dewan. From my observation, I found that these people did not go with a small number ~~x~~ of cattle but went in charge of a very large number.

Rev. Commr. I have made enquiries also . Cattle are sometimes taken in batches, one man being in charge of each batch. But it is often difficult to get a sufficient number of cattle in one village. I recommend ~~that~~ that, when people cannot go themselves on account of the small number of cattle that they have to take, these may be taken over by Government and sent in herds.

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Dewan. When the cattle leave the village , the Amildar should be instructed to place himself in communication with the forest officer in charge of the forest to which the cattle are going, so that, the Forest Officer may know and make suitable arrangements for taking care of the cattle.

Rev. Commr. Yes. The Amildar may be instructed to do so.

Dewan. Mr. Muttannah will instruct his men also.

Conservator. Yes. In the Mysore District there is not much difficulty for water in the forest. It is only in Chennagiri and Lakkavalli forests that I want a number of wells.

Dewan. Send an estimate of your requirements and we shall consider. The understanding is that the Deputy Commissioners ~~should~~ shall instruct his Taluk Amildar to communicate to the District Forest Officerto whose forest the cattle are going and also inform the people of

of the &&&&&& forests to which the cattle may be taken.

Mr. Sreenivasa Iyengar. There is one precaution to be taken as any general fire will destroy all fodder. My District Forest Officer told me that if special precautions are not taken, there is danger of all fodder being burnt.

Conservator. If you put the cattle under the charge of the Forest Officers, then there will not be much difficulty about fires. But if the ryots are left to themselves they cannot take as much care as forest officials, It wil be possible to arrange to have all the cattle taken care of by Forest officials.

Rev. Commr. This is desirable as the villagers are very careless and will not take any precautions and ~~look~~ Cook anywhere.

Dewan. Give publicity to the fact that if these people go with a chit from the Amildar their cattle will be taken charge of by the Forest Officer.

and taken care of for a small fee.

The next point is about cutting grass. Have you got grass plots close to the cattle?

Conservator. We have got areas closed to cattle.

Revenue Commr. Cattle should not be allowed to tress-pass on portions in which cutting is possible. We can get plenty of paddy straw from the Malnad.

Dewan Have you strated cutting on a large scale? That will give employment to a large number of people. You may keep this in view and do the needful.

Conservator Yes. But I have got only one Press with me so far.

Revenue Commr. In the United Provinces some presses may be available and why not communicate with them?

Dewan The next question is - whether village works or Public Works should be chiefly relied on in particular areas. Have you got Mr. Dorasami Iyer, sufficient number of small village works.

Mr. Dorasami Iyer — I have put down for the present 26 works in Kunigal sufficient for 68,955 units out of the Famine relief programme This will last for about two or three months. As these works are completed, we shall take others in the same locality I think we may take up District Fund - - works now in preference to large works, i in addition to the works that are going on in the usual course in the Public Works Department.

Chief Engineer. — The estimate for Public Works Department work now on hand namely at Nidsalay is Rs.99,000 with ½ a lakh on earth work. There is another project (Mokonahalli) which is estimated at 8 lakhs.

Dewan — Can Mr. Chakravarti give us money if we start this 8 lakhs project. It is a protective work, paying and desirable in every way , and will ensure the permanency of the springs in the Shimsha river and be altogether one of the best project in a tract where water will be very much

much appreciated. And then there is the Marikanve. Suppose you shift the population of the affected tracts to Marikanve There you have under consideration a project of extending the channel. Will it not afford work to the people, if you begin to carry out the project?

Chief Engineer. No, it will take some time to get the project ready. Only waddars are now employed there on small works. Of course, others would find work too. Another lakh and a half may be spent in completeing the present programme itself.

Comptroller I think I can find funds if it is a protective work and will give employment mostly to unskilled labour and is in close proximity to the affected areas. A project in a sparsely populated part is of n no use as a relief work.

Revenue Commr. The tract round Marikanve is getting populated, many applications for land under the Marikanve Reservoir have been granted. Although I do not apprehend

apprehend that many of the Chellakere people would come there, still the project is a very advantageous one. We shall keep this project in reserve. If we find that we are running short of works, we may at any time transfer gangs of men to this spot and begin work. The locality is not moreover far from Hosadurga where relief is needed. So, I suggest that ~~thi~~ this project may be kept in readiness, so that, ~~xx~~ if necessary it may be ~~xtxx~~ xxxx started three months hence.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty — I want the Parasarampur project also to be taken up. The estimated cost is Rs. 2,54,000. I have got a memo ready with me in that connection.

The Revenue Commr. — I have obtained the file relating to this project from the Chief Engineer for study and you may give your memo to me.

The Chief Engineer — The channel is 70 miles long. The -- original estimate for the project will be exceeded by at least 500 per cent!

The Dewan. Agency for supervising. Let us then proceed to the next item- about the agency for carrying on these works. Is not a list of the agency available prepared for all the Districts? I find Mr. Wetherall has got such a list for ~~relief~~ Village Relief Works in his District. Have you got any for Tumkur?

Mr. Dorasami Iyer. Yes, I have.

The Revenue Commr. I think 60 per cent of all influential men will be available for supervising the works. We can get men, if necessary, from the Survey Superintendent's Field Establishment. When I spoke to the Deputy Superintendent of Survey about it, he told me that some of the 'duffers' under him will not be able to work in the malnad.

In this connection I wish to suggest also that as the Deputy Commissioner will have to carry on a large number of minor tank works it is desirable to draft an Assistant Engineer or other trained man to each District and place him under

under the Deputy Commissioner to assist in these works. This course will relieve the Public Works Budget to some extent. I would suggest that as an alternative in addition to the present Sub Overseer, at least a trained upper subordinate of the Public Works Department may be placed under the Deputy Commissioner of each District to supervise Civil works.

The Chief Engineer. My present establishment has been cut down to a minimum. Five or six men have been retired and their places have not yet been filled up. If required I can send old hands not urgently required for work in the Department.

The Dewan. You may send in your proposals for replacing the retired officials.

The Revenue Commr. What is the good of old and inefficient men! We want smart and active men with experience. Such men, could, I think, be easily spared as the Public Works Department is not likely to have any big famine works on hand.

The Dewan. But what harm is there in opening some big works too? For instance, the Nidsale project.

The Comptroller. We should not commit ourselves to any large expenditure.

The Chief Engineer. Perhaps Markanhalli project may be taken instead of the Nidsale project.

The Dewan. Yes. We may take it up. Markanhalli is in a tract most liable to famine and there is no water there. Up to now we have not spent much there from the Public Works Department. The work will go on for about three years or so.

The Comptroller. If there is a smaller work, let us take it up first.

The Dewan. There is no use in it. These tanks are in the affected area and this is the best opportunity to begin them. Let us then decide upon taking up Markonhalli tank as far as Tumkur is concerned. But Mr. Dorasami Iyer will have to give us an idea of the cost, agency &c.

About Shimoga we have got the Bhadra

Bhadra Project already.

The Comptroller. I think it is a mistake to commence too many large works together.

The Dewan. I think we can make up our minds to com mence that also.

The Comptroller. One is estimated at 14 lakhs and the other at 8 lakhs. Perhaps they will be completed in three years.

The Dewan. No. It may go on to 5 years.

The Comptroller. There will be others coming in . Two large projects we can continue, but not more.

The Dewan. There will perhaps be another small one which may not take up more than two lakhs

The Chief Engineer. There may be two- Kumadwati and Ambligola project.

The Dewan. If the other one is also mature , there will be a demand for two or three lakhs more.

Mr. Chandy. There are two tanks in the Shimoga District which might give employment to

Waddars

Waddars. The Honnali Tank and the Sulekere tank.

The Revenue Commr. I shall suggest to the Deputy Commrs. that they may also have a list of channels to be cleared in their districts. This will give work to many.

The Dewan. I think you are satisfied that you have got sufficient agency for supervision.

The Revenue Commissioner. If Mr. McHutchin will give us the help asked of him there wont be much difficulty. We may also draft a few ~~mes~~ Mestries from those who have passed out of the Engineering School at Mysore and train them.in the Districts. If we get a list of the men available, we may ask ~~th~~ the Deputy Commissioners to select out of them and train them.

The Chief Engineer. Yes. It may be done.

The Dewan. The Revenue Commissioner may send in his proposals regarding his requirements.

The Dewan. System of selection of official and non-official agency. The next question is as to the ~~suggestion~~ system

~~suggestion~~ system on which officials and non-officials should be selected.

The Revenue Commr. The proposition is put forward merely to have a general idea. The pay that will have to be given has also got to be considered. We want assistance at the time of granting gratuitous and other relief. The Sheikdars want assistance when employed as Circle Inspectors. We may perhaps employ School Masters and men ~~from~~ from the Engineering Schools in addition to non-official agency. There are also Shanboghs and retired Sheikdars who may be indented upon whenever help is needed.

The Dewan. Let us have a clear idea about them. There is no harm likely to be caused in having the men ~~xxx~~ in readiness and assigning to them different specific duties.

Rev. Comr. They can all be sent to district head quarters for training, after which they may be deputed for work.

The Comptroller We can give you the funds for this also, as the cost will be charged to - Famine expenditure and the agency will be broken up as soon as the necessity ceases.

The Dewan The next item is about Medical - relief. Can you have men, if need be, for medical relief in the affected tracts?

Medical Relief.

Col. Smyth I cannot afford to give any of my Hospital Assistants. We are already shorthanded. I can only move the dispensaries nearer the places where help is needed.

The Dewan What do you generally do for - Medical relief during Famine.

Col. Smyth We advertize and get men from - outside the service.

The Rev.Comr. So long as people are kept in - their own villages there will be no - necessity for this kind of relief.

The Dewan Would it not be well to advertize for men and get information as to who are willing to take up temporary employments?

Col.Smyth This may be done.

Dewan The next item is about the increase of Police Force. Do you want additional men, - Mr.Devaraj Urs?

Increase of Police Force

Mr.Devaraj Urs. A small additional Police Force will be required to prevent crime. We have to patrol roads. A small increase will perhaps do. But I would rather increase the number of Totis - and Talaris.

The Dewan That is a good idea. You may - settle it in consultation with the - Rev. Comr.

Mr.Devaraj Urs. Yes. For a single Police Man's

pay we can have three or four talaris.

The Rev.Comr. During the present season of distress, the Assistants to Sub Division Officers Amildars etc. Amildars will be very busy supervising the work of the Sheikdars. Test Works and other relief works will also claim their attention. It is therefore better to relieve them of their Magisterial duties. These duties may be entrusted to Sub-Registrars wherever they are competent for undertaking such duties. Amildars may also require some good accountants. Else the accounts might get confused. The Deputy Commissioner may also require a couple of additional hands.

The Comptroller The Comptroller's office will send travelling auditors if necessary.

The Rev.Comr. But that is not enough.

Dewan. You may send proposals about special accountants.

The Rev.Comr. I think we may require as many - Sheikdars more as there are now.

The Dewan You may suggest some means to relieve the Sheikdars.

The Rev.Comr. The hoblis will have to be split up. There is provision in the Famine Code for it.

The Dewan Send in your requirements. Let us now pass on to the next point, - namely the reserve of tools.

The Rev.Comr. For the villages there generally is a certain number of tools which the villagers bring with them. When there is a requisition we shall have to - supply them. There is a small stock of tools in the district head quarters.

Reserve of tools

The Dewan I think there is nothing lost in supplying necessary tools to the differ-ent taluk head quarters in the affected tracts. You may do this at once.

The Chief Engineer I have no tools for boring wells

etc.

The Rev.Comr. I think each set costs about Rs 1000 and each district may be supplied with a set.

The Dewan You may do that, Mr.McHutchin. Let us now pass on to the subject of Finance-remission and suspension of land revenue.

The Comptroller Why not suspension of land revenue come at the earlies stage instead of - remission? We may have suspension at the first stage.

Remission and Suspension of land - revenue.

The Dewan No, that would not do. We are dealing with cases where there is a - more or less total failure of crops.

The Rev.Comr. We are now giving remissions - under tanks where no crops were raised but not under springs and kapile wells. where the crops may fail equally. - There is no principle in this distinction and the concession should be

extended to both the cases. The remission is given not on account of the existence of Famine but on account of the failure of crops according to the principles laid down by Government. I would suggest that the concession be extended also to garden lands where no crops are realised. The amount will not be very much. It is only the remission of half the wet lands revenue on the recognised principles.

The Comptroller — The other half is also suspended and there is thus practically no collection. The total wet assessment is something like 45 lakhs.

The IInd Councillor — But this rule would apply to a small area in the parts affected.

The Dewan — Let us have an estimate of the probable requirements under this head.

The — But the principle may be adopted of having suspensions now and remission later if necessary.

The Dowan

We shall pass orders after getting estimates made of the amount that may have to be remitted if the principles adopted in the previous years are followed. Let us now go to the question of Hulbanni.

Mr.Kumarasami Naik

Though the hulbanni proposed to - be remitted is very small in amount - still the remission will be greatly appreciated by the ryots

Remission of hulbanni

Dewan

There is no objection to it. Re- Refund of license fees for grazing

Refund of license fees levied for grazing is not necessary. The next item is the remission of license fees for collecting fire wood.

The Con.of Fts.

As it is, the ryots are allowed to take headloads of firewood free and - the license fee levied in other cases is so small that it would not be of -

substantial benefit to anyone except to traders in fuel.

The Dewan — Persons in affected tracts may employ bullocks in bringing firewood and thus you may be helping the ryots.

The Conservator — I do not understand how the ryots could be benefited by the remission.

Mr.Chengiah Chetty — Many people asked me in the Hiriyur taluk to be allowed to remove firewood free.

Dewan — I think we may allow this remission also in the affected tract and see if it will be really appreciated.

Dewan — We now pass on to the remission of Mohatarfa

The Rev.Comr. — All people paying a mohatarfa tax of less than eight annas may be exempted.

Remission of Mohatarfa

The Dewan — The next point deals with the -

advances to be given to village officers.

The Comptroller

In certain specified portions of the affected - tracts, it may have to be given, but not as a matter of course. The district officers - should use their discretion and see - that they are given in very deserving and exceptional cases. The first instalment may be given at the end of - December and the next at the end of - March.

Advances to village Officers

The Rev.Comr.

Yes, but what about the Kandayam on Manyam lands?

Mr.Dorasami Iyer

We treat them like other lands of a similar description as a matter of course. The lands are ~~fully~~ fully assessed.

The Rev.Comr.

Let us have the opinion of the - other Deputy Commissioners also.

The Rev.Comr.

I think that during the last season the kandayam was not remitted in the case of Shanbogi inams. It is -

only the inam lands that do not get - any remission. I think we need not - take this point into consideration now. One instalment of advances may be given in January and the other in March.

The Dewan

The next item is as regards the payment to totis &

Payment of Totis

and the principles on which they should be made. You - will settle this, Mr.Devaraj Urs, with the Rev.Comr. and submit your proposals to Government.

The next item, namely the employment of literate men in clerical and other work has already been discussed. We shall next consider the question of making arrangements for securing regular supplies of grain.

The Rev.Comr.

I wish to suggest that some advances may be -

Advances to Merchants for storing grains

given to particular merchants for the purpose of holding some quantity of grain say -

about 10 or 20 pallas, in reserve. This is specially necessary at small-vi village santes which are the only - source of supply to the neighbouring - villages. If, at any time, either - because of a lack of food supply or - because of the very high prices charged for them the villagers are unable to - purchase their weekly stock of provi- sions these merchants will be required to bring out their reserve and thus - meet what would be a bad situation. The Deputy Commissioner will have to settle details with the local merchants. The cost may be estimated at about 40 or 50 thousand rupees. In the Kolar district they are importing grain from other adjoining districts. There is not much export now as prices have - risen.

Dewan

Passing over the next two items which have been already discussed, we come to thelast item about the imprest

to Amildars.

Imprest to Amildars.

There is a proposal from the Rev. Comr. to place an imprest of Rs 300 in the hands of the Amildars. This is provided for in Section 70 of the Famine Code, under which they may also be given an imprest of Rs 100.

The Comptroller.

Of course all Famine Officers have to be given advances. We may leave that to the discretion of the Deputy Commissioners. The advances may be - given to the district officers who may distribute them among charge Superintendents and Circle officers according to needs. The district officers should be held responsible to Govt for the adjustment of these advances.

Proceedings of the Conference held in the Public office Buildings on 17th December 1908

Present:

V. P. Madhava Rao Esqre B.A., C.I.E., Dewan (presiding).

J. Anandarao Esqre B.A., First Councillor,

K. P. Puttanna chetty Esqre., Second Councillor,

A. Rangasawmi Ayengar, Esqre BA., B.L.,

E. Maconochie Esqre., I.C.S.,

J. S. Chakravarti, Esqre., M.A.,

Lt: Col. J. Smyth, I.M.S.

W. Mac Hulehin, Esqre:

H. H. Sparkes, Esqre:

D. Devaraj Urs, Esqre:

M. Muttanna, Esqre

B. S. Kumarsami Naik Esqre
Dy. Com. Bangalore.

M. Chengiah chetty, Esqre:
" Chitaldrug.

K. R. Srinivasiengar, Esqre
" Kadur.

C. Srikanteswara Ayer, Esqre
" Kolar

K. Chandy, Esqre
" Shemoga.

K. S. Dorasami Ayer, Esqre
" Tumkur.

P. R. W. Wetherall, Esqre:
" Hassan.

Narayana Rao (Mysore)

Dewan (Reads his introductory Speech).

The 1st question for us to consider is the determination of the affected tracts, their area, population etc..

Rev: Comr.

We are not quite ready at this stage to ~~know~~ with information as to the precise area of the affected tracts. We may roughly say what portions of taluks are affected. Generally speaking, I think in the Bangalore District, the principal portion is in the Solur and other hoblis to the north of the Kunigal road, that is, the portion where the Deputy Commissioner recommended test works. In the Tumkur District, the principal portions are — the Kunigal taluk, the Turuvekere Sub-taluk, portions of Tiptur and portions of two hoblis of Tumkur Taluk, and almost the whole of the Pavagada taluk and parts of Sira and Maddagiri. In the Hassan District — Chennaraya patna and Arsikere taluks and the

Dy:

Deputy Commissioner says some portions of Belur and near Halebeid side are affected.

In Kadur, it is only the Kadur taluk that is chiefly affected on the northern side of it. In the Chickmaglur taluk also, a few villages are badly off.

In the Shimoga District, the Deputy Commissioner has not indicated the tracts clearly, but it seems that portions of Chennagiri and Shimoga talukes are affected.

In the Chitaldrug District, we have got the Hosadurga taluk, portions of Hiriyur and Chellakere, and Davangere and a few villages round about.

In the Mysore District, the Nagamangala taluk generally and Basavahalli and Maglur hoblis in the Mandya taluk

First Councillor. Is not Sira affected?

Rev. Comr: Not the whole of it, but portions of it here and there. Sira had some rains lately.

Dewan. It is so difficult to ~~generalize~~ give a general description of the affected tracts ~~the information~~; because within a few furlongs of ~~a~~ a place ~~you find~~ there may be a ~~quite~~ a different state of things.

Are we in possession of information as regards the percentage of people who might stand in need of different kinds of relief.

Rev. Comr: Some instructions have been given for collecting the requisite information according to the directions laid down in the Famine Code. I do not think that the Shekdars & other village officers have completed the work. It is in the course of compilation and from what Mr. Doraisami Iyer and Mr. Srikanteswara Aiyar told me, the information would be ready by the 15th of this month.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty I think I can also have it ready by that time.

Rev Comr. When I went on tour, I also made

it a point to examine everywhere the crop reports as entered from the Pahani register where the area sown is entered. But the village officials do not know how to enter the proportionate ~~estimate~~ yield and they are not able to ~~collect~~ give the details from which the total ~~result~~ attempt might be calculated at the end of the register. I instructed them how to do it. When this is done, they will be able to give the entire details exactly.

Dewan: That information also, perhaps will be ready by the 15th of this month, I believe!

Rev. Comi: Yes. Both the Khaneshumari and the Pahani registers will be ready.

Mr. Ramaswami Naik. I do not think it will be ready in my district. Detailed information cannot be given as the actual estimate of the wet crops both Kharif and Rabi. In the localities visited by me I have noticed some such details but these are mostly for my information.

Mr. Chandy. In my district also, it will take two or three weeks more to get the

information. But perhaps a rough estimate may be given now.

Mr. Seemivasa Iyengar. We may form some estimate of the kuruvai crops now but have to wait till the kuruvai crops for the Navjan crop. Even now the February crop I think that if there is some rain we can

Rev. Comm: According to the instructions issued by me, you may give the approximate estimates as regard both the first and the second crops now.

~~You can even easily say now your estimates as a final result.~~ ~~Except the Bangalore district, I am sure you ought to be able to give a detailed report soon.~~

and verify these estimates by the results of the subsequent inspection to be made in February I have not had time to check the Kolaru inspection in the Bangalore district but the same method may also be adopted here

Mr. Kumaraswami Naick. I can have my estimate also ready by that time. I have got some figures based on my own observation according as how I estimated it but not actual.

I shall also have the estimate ready in a fortnight

Rev. Comm: He can give more detailed estimates at least in the tracts in which he has actually gone.

Dewan. It is sufficient to take the rate specified in the Code as standard

In order to calculate the number of the people

the stand and fixed in the codes and the numbers may then be calculated easily

Rev. Comr: That can be determined this may be done within a week.

Mr. K.R. Srinivasiengar. Roughly 10 p.c in the Malnad and 15 p.c. in the maidan may be taken. If exact number is wanted it is not possible to give soon. Famine Code itself provides for the calculation.

As regards the crops too, we know what the state of the Moongar crop is; and as regards the Hengar the condition of the jola and a few others which have been lately sown, may yet improve, if the hope of the people that they will be getting rains hereafter, is realized. With regard to both these crops we have an estimate and we can give it at once.

Dewan. Now we come to ~~There there is~~ the sub-item viz: loans and advances of various kinds including loans to industrial classes. What is the allot-

the Districts? Have you got figures for these?

Rev. Comr.: We know what we have allotted; but that will not give any idea of the actual requirements for the season. We now go on the principle of giving as much as is demanded just to feel for the existing condition ~~our way as we go on~~.

Dewan. Have any districts taken action under the head "loans to industrial classes"?

Hn. Chengiah chetty. The grants allotted as ~~sanctioned for~~ my districts are - Rs 26,015 for loans under Land Improvement Act and Rs 2,000 for weavers.

Rev. Comr.: I have granted it. But have you advanced any money?

Hn. Chengiah chetty. As. Of the loans for irrigation wells Rs 9,100 I have sanctioned for; ~~and I have already spent~~ have already been spent Rs 4,015 in Chellakere and Molakalmuru. I have also applied for another additional grant

I have also given loans of about Rs 2,350 for land improvement; and Takavi advances to the extent of 1,150 for purchase of bullocks etc.

Dewan. Are advances given for the purchase of bullocks also? Is it necessary to give these advances in there is no cultivation going on now. How will the ryots maintain these bullocks?

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. In the forest we have got grass as also in Marikanave. We have been allowing grass to be cut and removed freely without any payment.

The only question to be decided is about advances for subsistence allowance to the people. We have not yet commenced it. But there are many applications for it.

Dewan. Is this a proper kind of relief allowed by the Rules?

Rev. Comr: Yes. There is provision for it

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. If only we begin to advance amounts for subsistence, we ~~have demand for~~ about will be required for 10 lakhs in my district alone. It is necessary ~~But some~~ ~~exempts~~ to ~~give~~ some limit ~~limit should be imposed.~~

Rev. Comm. Take the Khaneshmari and see if all these applicants are really in need. Also see that you give it only to land-holders.

Mr. K.R. Srinivasaiyan. In my district I have already commenced giving loans ~~under the Takavi~~ on this question I have done ~~it~~ per ~~under~~ certain definite principles. I have made rigid inquiries as to how far the applicants have been unfit ~~unable~~ to earn their livelihood ~~by going to labor.~~ To those who are agriculturists, loans are given on the security of their lands. Suppose a family consists of an old man, a woman and children. ~~The~~ K old man ~~cannot~~ is unable to go and work for his livelihood, either from old age, infirmity or any other ~~as~~ sufficient cause. Or suppose the occupant is a woman. In such cases Rs 5 or 6 per month in the

Up to now I have spent about Rs. 200/- I explained to the raiyats the grounds on which such loans were given and they seemed to appreciate the procedure.

Mr. Dorasami Iyer. In my District also there were about 1041 applicants for these loans, men who might have seen better days. They all wanted takavi advances at Kumigal to buy fodder etc

Mr. Chengaiah Chetty. We must have better rules. Lately I also issued a circular to all my Amildars stating that the concession will be given specifying and to four classes of people to whom relief may be given - these

(1) Those who are infirm and old and who have got women family children depending on them, and who cannot go out and work for their livelihood but who have got lands.

(1) The infirm & the aged who cannot work for their living

(2) Respectable people who own lands but who will not go and work on roads and tanks works

(3) Widows with children possessing lands, who cannot earn their livelihood by going to work

(4) Men who have got Kapille wells but who cannot go outside for work.

I calculated each family — the amount required in the form — consisting of 5 members, and 72 Rs ~~to be given to~~ will be required for them for six months.

Dewan. Suppose every cultivating ryot applies for a loan. What would be the amount required?

Mr. Chengiah Chetty. We give only to those who cannot go to work. I think about Rs 10,000 will be required in the applications ~~have to be given~~. There is no ~~estimate~~ facts in the Chairman's possession. I have all the applications for about one lakh of rupees from all the districts & even if they loans are given all are the applications will not amount to more than 3 crores of rupees.

Dewan. I think the lands upon which you propose to act are ~~joint~~ mixed security But can you give us an idea as to the requirements for the whole of the affected tracts?

Mr. K.R. Srinivasiengar. I think that for the present we may accept the principle that the unfortunate agriculturists and farmers who cannot be made to go to work should be granted loans if they are able to furnish sufficient landed security. What would the amount required for these loans be & what if even able-bodied agriculturists who are not willing to go to

I think by the 15th, we will be able to give complete information.

Dewan. Under the modified scheme, do you think you will be able to calculate

Idea was to discourage such loans at this stage. But when loans are given under circumstances mentioned by Mr K.R Srinivasiengar and Mr Chengiah Chetty and when this kind of relief is not considered good, you have to relieve the people gratuitously - in which case you must make some estimate.

Comptroller

But the question is whether able-bodied poor are actually made to work in the field without any loan.

Dewan.

Able-bodied men will not be given any loans

Comptroller.

Now no able-bodied people should be given. A loan would be admissible to agriculturists for maintaining themselves when they are working in their fields. But when there is no field work to be done; able bodied men will be expected to come out and work for their livelihood. But if loans are given to these, that will be antici-

Dewan

Loans for Industries only in any extreme case.

Comptroller

We may be able to collect these fines in a week

Must when they are free to take up other work. In the latter case they must be made to do work. Otherwise we shall be practically anticipating

the Famine Code. This should not be done without the special orders of Government

Departing from the provisions of the Famine Code.

Dewan.

In the United Provinces they found it necessary to depart considerably from the provisions of the Famine Code & the Question simply is whether by doing so we shall be able to relieve distress better than the Comptroller

As far as the Famine Code is concerned, the duty of the Government is to set aside the rule ~~loans~~ altogether. The rule seems to be to depart from the Famine Code altogether.

But it is certainly objectionable to spend money in maintaining people who are able to work

Dewan There is no idea to give these loans indiscriminately Let us find out from the experience of Collectors as to who are the people that are likely to

Mr. Wetherall apply for these loans

In an application that has arrived in the Bezwada Taluk landed security was required to be given & the applicant withdrew it. There have been a number of such applications but there require investigation. It is doubtful if any persons will really in need will come forward for such loans as they have to furnish

Mr. Narayana Rao (Burma)

Men who are not able-bodied will have to be relieved even before famine is actually declared; and that is to the advantage of Government. But we cannot be expected to maintain agriculturists at their homes. They must come to the works.

We have had no applications for the present, except a few from the Anaikere taluk. A ~~Many~~ many applications had come to me indiscriminately and we had to institute inquiries before entertaining any of them.

We had 200 applications for subsistence allowance.

Hon. Comm:

It is necessary to give these loans as it will help the Agriculturists in their hands; it is very important that they should be in a position to commence their field operations as soon as the rains fall. By giving loans to agriculturists we assist them in many ways. We help them to improve their lands & also enable them to maintain themselves while they are in a position to resume their ordinary occupations. After all the amount required for each family cannot be large - supposing it consists of 5 members. When they do not all work, they do not require the same quantity of food. A rupee a rupee & a half would be a liberal allowance for each member. I do not suppose more than 5 Rs for each family. Many agriculturists do not do any work while they receive almost the same

We must encourage land-holders to work because they will be in a better condition to carry on their field operations afterwards when the rains fall. It will not break the village society and most of our loans are quite safe; and the amounts spent upon public works which are not going to make famine works at all. Otherwise the expenditure upon works will be very much. what we are likely to spend on famine works will be spent in the shape of loans to some of these people; and they will not also be idle but prepare their fields for the next season. Moreover when the people stay at home, their expenditure will be very much less. Therefore, what I recommended was to calculate at a rupee or a rupee and a half in a family of 5 people — two children, one old, and two adults. Working men only get the full rations, the others being content with a very much

smaller quantity. In villages, if you calculate at 5 rupees, the raiyats would earn Rs 300/- a year.

Five rupees for an extra family?

The Second Councillor:

It won't come to much, and each raiyat can take three years to pay back the amount.

Rev. Coms:

The loan will be repaid in 2 or 3 years. The agriculturists will whatever crops they are able to save & these loans will be able to maintain themselves & in this way the number of people for whom work will have to be found employment will be reduced

When the proposition comes the recommendation will be, that half the wet assessment will be excused and dry assessment will be suspended till the next harvest. At present what little they have reaped will be available for their maintenance. It will generally be a third of the landlord's share.

Comptroller How many of the agriculturists in the state supplement their earnings by

Mr. Chengiah chetty

I have got applications for about one lakh of rupees from all the taluks. But subsistence allowance alone would come to about Rs 30,000. I have been to remunerative it, otherwise there

Some ask for work and what Opinion can there be in requiring those people to

Comptroller.

If you make advances for subsistence to every landlord, the amount will be something enormous because at this season money can be had for the asking on easy terms, every landlord, even if he does not want urgently, there is nothing to prevent him from asking and it is difficult for the Deputy Commissioner to differentiate between the really needy and the rich.

Rich Ryots are by & Large amenable against unnecessary advances for if each applicant is granted the total amount who provided for will be something enormous & it will not be fair to the Govt & Ryots between the really needy & the rich. Some may borrow merely with a view to lend it out at usurious rates of interest.

Mr. K.B. Srinivasengar.

The Few Cumm Rent Landlords & even tenant subsistence live on the produce of their own land. They do not seek other work. If they are kept idle they have to be maintained. Even if they are made to do any experience is that people are not ready to ask for this kind of relief. It is the man who is really pinched that comes forward. One Village assured me that in all their villages there will not be more than two or three families coming and seeking aid. Especially as lands are demanded as collateral security for the loans given, the ryots are not as ready to come forward as otherwise they would perhaps have done.

lands, their dependants will have to be supported. They will not be prevented from coming. Loan is likely to mortgage his lands unless it be absolutely necessary and a no large amount will be advanced there. is no risk that any cultivator will take these loans.

Shri Doraiswami Iyer.

I got applications to the value of Rs 68,000 from 1,041 people for takavi advances; and land improvement and irrigation wells to the value of 1,31,000.

Three-fourths of these applications are from Tiptur, Kunigal, Gubbur and Magadi.

My impression is, that so far as the agriculturists are concerned, they are averse to go on works. They merely want something to supplement their stock of things for the future until the next season. The pressing need would be to grant as much of loans as possible — not that we should offer to give them, but according to the demand we receive from the raiyats. These demands won't be many, as Shri K.A. Srinivasiengar said, only the really needy will apply. Even in the applications they make, they specify some figure without understanding the need. But when these figures are checked in office, we can grant as much loan as there is need for.

Loans for the ~~relief of distress~~ maintenance of agriculture answer this purpose best. We need not press many — the works but must comply with all reasonable demands.

Many of the applications for loans are made without any regard for any necessities. Such applications are easily found out & rejected.

After all for Sir Sivaswamy a large number of the applications that may be granted will not

The necessity to provide adequate labour supply will greatly reduce the number of the applications

Dist Coll:

As the Dewan remarked in the opening address, organized Committees will be able to give us help. The respectable raiyats of the neighbourhood working with the Amildar or the Asstt: Coll: will be able to say how much can be given to the different applicants.

in discriminating between deserving & undeserving cases

Dewan

I think the rules for advances on account of irrigation wells and land improvements are very clear and definite, and no supplemental instructions are necessary. But it is only with regard to advances for the subsistence of the ryot and for fodder to cattle, that we have to lay down a definite policy. From what fell from Rao B. Srinivasiengar & Mr Chengiah chetty, it is apparent that it will be desirable to give advances freely for the subsistence ~~as well~~ of the raiyats in cases where the earning member is not able to work or the occupa

Regard to advances for subsistence, all are agreed that it is necessary to make them to all persons who from age, bodily infirmity or sex are unable to work even if they are not landholders if they are able to furnish such security

is not able to go on the works. In such cases it will be desirable to make advances to keep the family together and enable them to tide over this period of distress. Then, shall we say that in cases where the occupant has a good security to offer and is unable to go on the works either from infirmity or old age or the occupant being a woman with lots of children at home — that advances may be given for subsistence also without considering whether they are engaged in cultivation or not?

So long as the advances are well secured, they may be given.

We may say that Mr. Chakravarthi recommends these advances for subsistence, provided the security is good.

(To Mr. K.R. Srinivasiengar) You don't propose to give advances under this head to everyone?

Mr. Srinivasiengar. My idea is only to restrict it to people of the condition just suggested, who are actual Khatedars

It is only on the cost of able-bodied persons that it is necessary to consider whether similar loans should be given and on what principle. Before passing any definite order we should know how much money we shall have to provide if loans are given to all applicants able to furnish security whether they are physically capable or not. If the amounts are not large we may sanction them Government or some of the departments of the Board. In any case we may however fix the maximum minimum amounts that may be given by way of these loans

Hn: Doraiswami Iyer. I think so too. We may extend it to all people on good security.

Diwan But I am afraid we are departing too widely from the rules.

Rev. Comr: Else, you reduce the condition of a landlord to that of a cooly. It is better to enable him to keep up his respectability.

Hn. Chengiah Chetty. But then nobody will come up for relief works. For instance, the other day I went to a village where there were a lot of small cultivators. The whole village turned up and demanded advances. I said I could not afford to do it

Rev. Comr. But did you satisfy yourself that they had sufficient security

Hn: Chengiah Chetty. Yes. I did.

Comptroller. Before we recommend this policy, let an estimate be prepared for each district. Let us have this estimate before we finally commit ourselves to this policy.

Rev. Comr: If we insist only on their coming for works, the wages paid will be nearly three times the loan which will have to be granted. Whereas, the loan is repaid to you and in some cases, you can also insist upon interest being paid.

Comptroller. But then there are risks.

Rev. Comr. There is the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner. When you insist upon security being given, there is everything that you want. And so far as we know our own Rajyals, they will not come up for loans until they are actually pinched.

Comptroller Is it not possible to make any kind of estimate?

Second Councillor. It is better to make them work and give them funds to keep them at home. But suppose the works are near their homes.

Rev. Comr. You cannot find work near ... then take ...

their own tanks under certain conditions. When we manage to get them out, their dependents also will come out, whether you give them gratuitous relief or loans.

Comptroller: Are you speaking of the agriculturists – a class by themselves?

Rev: Comr.: Certainly. They never come for cooly work at all. They want loans. As a rule, where the landlords have only a few acres they generally do cooly work. They will not even borrow as they cannot have sufficient security to offer.

Hn. Kumarasami Naik: Kandayem ranges from five rupees above. Those that pay only a small Kandayem would not only work for themselves but also for those that depend on them. And we have to provide work for them.

Chairman: In providing

for the establishment and also higher wages afterwhiles. ~~And the amount required for this~~

Comptroller

Loan is certainly better as the money ultimately comes back to Government. But the great safeguard against waste of works should be — money shall be spent only when such expenditure is actually required to be incurred for the saving of life; whereas in the matter of granting loans money has to be spent on other objects..

Rev Cons:

The worst of it, is the difficulty to bring out the people. The Village officers go to the spot and demand is made with them. But the risk is, if you don't make the advances; many of them may not also come to the works and by and by, we will have to increase our expenditure on gratuitous relief.

Rev. Comr:

Yes. That is what I say.

Mr. Chengiah Chetty - What will be the amount to be given to a family of five members?

Rev. Comr: I think half a seer a day for each member in the case of these poor people will be considered a liberal allowance ~~a very good dole~~.

For instance suppose you have got to give 12 or 15 seers on an average, a rupee and a quarter for each member would be the maximum. You can even give less; and with what little they have already, they can buy grains when the prices go down and thus be able to tide over the period of distress. You need not give every month. You take security for the whole amount demanded and advance money according to requirements. Those that can afford to borrow for sinking wells etc, will not require loans for subsistence

Why not make it applicable to all raiyats provided they have proper security?

If they may have saved some of their land, it will not be necessary to give a loan to meet the subsistence expenses of subsistence. Those that can afford to borrow for sinking wells will not require loans for subsistence. So if we take the amount at 12 a 15 seers for each member on an average per month a a rupee and a quarter for each member it will be ample. Security may be taken for the whole amount to be advanced & the amount being advanced in instalments

The 2.d Councillor:

Comptroller. So long as there is adequate security, you can give advances. But the only thing is, we should not undertake anything like feeding say about 40 or 50 p.c. of the population, because we have not got money to meet the expenditure. If you give loans to practically all ryots and landholders for 5 or 6 months or if you want to feed half the population of Mysore, where is the money to come from? Local officers have to decide as to how much of the population could come forward for loans.

Rt. Ramaraasami Naik. Those that cannot give security will go and work on the works. The advances will be limited to the affected area only.

Rev. Comr: It is not the whole Province. Advances will be given only in the affected tracts, one-fourth portion of the Province or still less.

Comptroller. If it is one-fourth, the amount

will come to 15 lakhs.

Dewan. What is the number of patta holders in the State? At the rate of half a seer per member in a family of five members, the amount advanced will be much less than that given out as wages.

Rev: Comr: It will never exceed Rs 25 or 30 per family. And before you commence to lend, it will be January.

Mr. Chengiah chetty. If we know the definite policy to be adopted we can take action. I have got a good many applications to dispose of.

Dewan. Can you have figures for the affected tracts, Mr. Kumarsami Naik.

Mr. Kumarsami Naik. The affected tracts in my district are – Magadi, Channapatna, Ramanakankalli and Anekal ~~taluks~~. and Bangalore taluks. 23 villages in Bangalore tk: or 244 villages in the entire tract, with a population of 69,000 and an area

of 45 sq: miles.
And none of my people or cattle are going out.

Mr: Chengiah Chetty. On my district, the area of the affected tract is 1415 sq miles: with a population of 1,21,000

Mr: Srinivasiengar. 400 sq miles of my district with a population of about 70 or 75 thousand.

Mr: Srikanteswara Ayy. The affected area is 815 sq. miles with a total population of 1,61,000 made up of Industrial classes 18,000 and for the purposes of our present enquiry, an agricultural population of 1,17,000.

Dewan The maximum would be only 5 or 6 Rs per pattadar

Mr: Puttanna chetty: Suppose a pattadar pays only 2 or 3 Rs assessment.

Dewan. Rich people can go to work.

Comptroller: We cannot afford to give comparatively small loans to very

small landholders. They must go to courts. We may say that those who pay a revenue, so much and upwards will be given such loans and will be entitled to remain at home and employ labourers for works on their lands.

Dewan. Our assumption is that one family of Pattadars will require at least six Rupees ~~for~~ a month for six months; ie. 36 Rs. If he has got property which is worth that amount, advance will be given.

Comptroller. Provided the total number of Pattadars is not large.

Mr Chandy. I estimate the area of the affected tracts at 200 sq. miles.

Mr Narayana Rao. The affected area in the Mysore District is about 225 sq. miles including that of Nanjye, with a population of 66,000.

Mr Doraswami Ayer. The area of my district is about 3,000 sq miles & practically the whole district is affected.

(By rough calculation it was found that there would be 1½ lakhs of pattadars in the affected area, exclusive of those paying an assessment of Rs 5).

Dewan: I think the understanding may be that ~~you~~ we will decide on the loans to be given for subsistence and for fodder on the receipt of an estimate from you as to the number of persons that will require relief of that kind. ~~For the present the understanding may be that in the case of~~ patta holders who are unable either from sex, age or infirmity to go on the relief works, advances, should be given on the security of their lands. The extension of this principle to all patta holders will depend upon the estimates sent by you as to requirements and on the amount that the Govt can afford for this kind of relief.

Comptroller: If you also lay down the maximum and minimum limit of Kandayam payable on the land offered for security, it would be better. The concession may be extended only

I am only trying to lay down ~~some principle by which we can do something for restricting the class~~ to which this loan may be granted, ~~may be raised a limit as above~~ Say all those who pay ten rupees will ~~have to~~ go to courts and others may get loans.

Dewan. There is the security clause and I think that will be self-adjusting.

Comptroller. Even the smallest holder will demand a loan proportionate to his holding. So, ~~restrict~~ the ~~limit~~ minimum of a loan should be fixed

Rev. Comr: The smaller holdings should be excluded altogether.

Comptroller. I still think both the maximum and the minimum may be fixed.

Rev: Comr: We need not give loans for less than 15 Rupees. And when the lands are not worth Rs 15/- the smaller holdings will be automatically excluded and we need not give more than Rs 36/ or 50/-

Comptroller That will be self-adjusting

Dewan. Then may I take it that you are for fixing Rs 15/- minimum and Rs 50/- as the maximum?

—All agreed—

Dewan. But what about fodder? Do you propose to give loans for fodder also?

Rev. Comr. Cattle actually on work and used for Kapilla wells should have also relief ~~as~~ according to the actual number employed. so employed

Controller. Let the District officers give us an estimate and we shall consider the question afterwards. Perhaps the loan may be given on the same security.

Dewan We have calculated on the bare requirements of men and we cannot conceive this also with it. Suppose we say — subsistence for men or for fodder for cattle.

any case, the security question has a bearing. I don't think we need give advances for fodder in Shimoga, Kadur and portions of Chitaldrug. Kunigal and Nagamangala may require this concession chiefly.

Dewan. The question is whether we have to include it in this calculation or ~~make~~ a separate Concession.

Rev. Comr: It will depend on the idea as to ~~have~~ limit ~~is~~ to be provided on account of fodder for a season.

on the other families that may be formed for fodder

Dewan. What will a raiyat require for feeding his cattle for six months? How many head of cattle ~~under the~~ can a yr allow under this. ~~has~~.

Rev: Comr: I think a pair for each family.

Dewan What are the maintaining charges necessary for upon saving for two bullocks & a Cow

Rt: Srikanteswara Aya. In the last season of scarcity we granted large advances at

davangere. The ~~liberal grant that~~ ~~I gave was~~ Rs 20/- for fodder. Here in Belimangala and other Hoblis, no man has yet taken more than Rs 10/- for the whole season. The ryot goes to the nearest place brings fodder with the amount advanced and stocks it with him.

Comptroller. Then the loan may be fixed at an amount not exceeding Rs 15/-

Rev. Comr. Rs 20 may be maximum and nothing less than 10 Rs need be given.

Dy. Chandy. Then it will be Rs 15/- minimum and Rs 65/- maximum per Palladar as the same security.

Dewan. Suppose there is demand only for fodder. What is the rate you would allow to each Palladar?

Comptroller. No minimum need be fixed.

Rev: Comr: I think minimum may be Rs 10/- and maximum Rs 20/-.

Comptroller. Yes. When a man applies for loan for fodder alone, a minimum must be fixed. That proposed by the Rev. Comr. may be adopted.

(It was agreed that minimum shd be fixed at Rs 10/- and maximum Rs 20/-).

≠ minimize small accounts

Dewan.

What is the proportion put down for gratuitous relief?

Rev: Comr:

Three per cent of the population in the affected tracts. The population affected is 10 lakhs and so about 30,000 persons will have to be given gratuitous relief, at the rate of about 10 or 15 seers a month. And the total amount of expenditure on this account will be 2,20,000 Rs, the maximum amount for six months.

Dewan

We will note this down for orders.

Comptroller.

Perhaps there will be public kitchens also.

Rev. Comr:

Yes.

Dewan.

What is the number of people that will have to be given relief of all kinds?

Rev. Comr:

We may take three per cent for the purpose of gratuitous relief, and 5 per cent for loans, including those for dependents. This number

will come up to 70,000 men on relief. These will be paid at the rate of four rupees per month. In this calculation we have to count for dependents which will cost less. So, if we pay at two annas, it will cover all expenditure and the total cost works up to 2,80,000 Rs a month or Rs 16,80,000 for 6 months

Dewan. Then we shall go to the next item — drinking wells etc. How many permanent wells are required?

Rev. Comr.: It will depend on the number of villages suffering from scarcity of water.

Mr. Chengiah chetty. I have already spent Rs 13,500 (sanctioned estimates) for 65 wells in the affected area. I might require another 100 wells to be dug. Calculating at the above rate, I might require about 20,000 Rs more.

Mr. K.A. Srinivasiengar. I have not got any figures here. But I think I have got about

three or four thousand rupees from the district funds and I ought to be able to manage my requirements within that amount. If I only get another five thousand rupees, I can meet all requirements in this direction.

Mr. Srikanteswara Iyer. I have dug up 370 temporary wells at a cost of Rs 18,000. I have got Rs 13,000, and I may require another 20,000 Rs to meet further needs.

Mr. Chandy. I require about Rs 15,000.

Mr. Doraswami Iyer. want Rs 20,000 more or including the grant already sanctioned Rs 32,000.

Mr. Coetherall. I require Rs 8,000.

— Dewan. We have already discussed the fodder question. We shall go on to the next item in the list viz: forests. You have heard, Mr. Multanna what I said in my opening speech in regard to what Mr. Srinivasa Rao opined about the forest in his charge?

Conservator. I cannot say that the informa-
tion given by Mr. Srinivasa Rao
is quite correct. There is absolutely
no spring within the coal forest
and the mining people had to
dig 300 feet before they ~~can~~ got water.

Dewan. I asked Mr. Srinivasa Rao to
give wide publicity to the facts men-
tioned by him and assure the local
~~ryot~~ raiyats also about the same.

Conservator. Outside the forest perhaps you
can find water but not inside.
The question of water in these forests
is of great importance to the cattle.
I think we want a large number
of wells in these forests. There is
dry grass there though of inferior
quality but no water.

Dewan. Have you made arrangements
in consultation with the Deputy
Conservator to receive the cattle ~~coming~~
coming from the districts?

Conservator. Yes. Every District Forest office
has been informed. The Dy. Conservator

have asked me to open some forests in Tumkur, Chitaldrug and Kolar.

Rev: Comr: Mr. K.R. Srinivasiengar informs me that there is plenty of water and grass in the malnad forests near Koppa, Kudremukh and that side. I think that if we can make arrangements for taking charge of the cattle by the forest authorities and sending them by batches to forests where grass and water is available and also persuade the raiyats of the neighbouring villages to depute 4 or 5 people among them and go in charge of 50 or 100 head of cattle, giving these people subsistence allowance, — we shall be able to take care of the cattle effectively.

Dewan. From my observation I found that these people did not go with a small number of cattle but went in charge of a very large number.

Rev: Comr: I enquired also. These people went in charge of batches, one man for each batch. But what

I recommend is, whether these people cannot go themselves with an account of the small number of cattle, they have to take these cattle may be entrusted to ~~them~~ ~~when a sufficient~~ ~~leave the~~ when they leave a village and sent in time.

Dewan. No. The ~~practice~~, when the cattle leave a village, the Amildar should be instructed to place himself in communication with the Forest officer in charge of the forest under whose control, the cattle are going, so that the Forest officer may know and make suitable arrangements for taking care of the cattle.

Rev: Comr: Yes. The Amildar may be instructed to do so.

Dewan. Mr. Muttanna will instruct his men also.

Conservator. Yes. In the Mysore District there is not much difficulty for water in the forest. It is only in Chennagiri and Lakkavalli forests that I want a number of wells.

Dewan. Send as much as your requirements and we will consider. The understanding

is that the dy. Coms: shall instruct his ~~taluk~~ Taluk Amildar to comm. municate to the ~~with~~ Forest officer to whose forest the cattle are going & also inform the Taluk & the forest which the cattle may be taken

Dy. Conservator. There is ~~one~~ precaution to be taken as any general fire will destry all fodder. My District Forest officer told me that if special precautions are not taken, ~~at~~ there is danger of all fodder going away. being burnt

Conservator. If you put the cattle under the charge of the Forest officers, then there will not be much difficulty about fires. But if the ranjats are allowed to themselves, they cannot take as much care as Forest officials.

It will be possible to arrange to have all the cattle taken care of by forest officials. ~~The~~ New comm. This is desirable as the villages are very scattered & it will not be [illegible] to [illegible] an inspector to [illegible] every village

Dewan. Give publicity to the fact that if these people go with a chit from the Amildar, their cattle ~~shall~~ will be taken over by the Forest officer and ~~for a small fee these may be~~ taken care of. for a small fee.

The next point is about cutting grass. Have you got grass plots close to the cattle?

Conservator. We have got areas close to cattle.

Rev. Comr.: Cattle should not be allowed to trespass on portions in which cutting is possible. We can get plenty of paddy straw from the Malnad.

Dewan: Have you started cutting on a large scale? That will give employment to a large number of people. You may keep this in view and do the needful.

Conservator: Yes. But I have got only one Press with me so far.

Rev. Comr.: In the United Provinces some presses may be available & why not communicate with them?

I would rather recommend that you do get Presses of the U.S.A. Perhaps you may write & get them soon.

Dewan: The next question is — whether village works or P.W. works shd be chiefly relied on in particular areas. Have you got, Mr. Dorasami Iyer, sufficient number of small village works.

Mr. Dorasami Iyer: I have put down for the present 26 works in Kunigal sufficient for 68,955 units out of the famine relief programme. This will last for about

two or three months. As these works will have completed, we shall take others in the same locality. I think we may take up District Fund works now in preference to large works, in addition to the works that are going on in the usual course in the P.W.D.

Chief Engineer. The estimate for the P.W.D work now on hand namely at Nidzâlay is Rs 99,000 with ½ a lakh on earthwork. There is another project which is estimated at 8 lakhs.

Diwan: Can Mr Chakravarti give us money if we start this 8 lakhs project. It is a protective work, paying, and desirable in every way, and will ensure springs in the Shimsha river and altogether one of the best projects in a tract where water will be very much appreciated. And then there is the Mari Kanave. Suppose you shift the population of the affected tracts to Marikanave? There you have in view a project of extending the channel. Will it not afford work to the people if you begin to carry out the project?

Chief Engineer. . . . No, it will take some time. Only 6 lakhs may be spent in completing the present programme. Only coolies are now employed there on small works. Of course others would find work too. ~~Point I want another lakh and a half to complete the present programme.~~

Comptroller. I think I can find funds if it is a protective work and ~~mostly work~~ gives employment to unskilled labor and is in close proximity of the affected area. ~~The~~ project ~~should not be undertaken~~ in a sparsely populated part ~~is not a project for relief work.~~ is of course a relief work.

Rev: Comr.: I ~~Many people are coming there.~~ The land round Marikanave is getting ~~Of late there have been sent~~ applied for ~~grants~~ Many applications for land under the Marikanave Reservoir have been granted. Although I don't apprehend that many of the Chellakere people would come there, still the project is a very advantageous one. We shall keep this project in reserve. If we find that we are running short of works, we may at any time transfer gangs of men to this spot and begin work. The locality is not moreover far from Hosadurga where relief is needed. So, I suggest that this project may be kept in ~~reserve for three months~~ readiness so that if necessary it may be started three months hence

Mr. Chengiah chetty — I want that Paramanampur project also to be taken up. The estimate is Rs 2,54,000. I have got a memo ready with me in that connection.

Rev. Comr. — I have obtained the file relating to this project from the Chief Engineer for study, and your memo may be given to me.

Chief Engineer. — The Channel is 70 miles long. The original estimate for the project will be exceeded by at least 500 p.c.

Let us then proceed to the next item — about the class of agency. I ~~believe~~ have had a ~~letter~~ from Mr Wetherall's ~~statement~~ although prepared? From Mr Lutchmaiah's statement, ~~shows clearly the agency~~ I ~~told that~~ similar statement ~~I am not a~~ is prepared for Tuticorin.

Yes

Rev. Comr: — I think 60 p.c. of the most influential men will be available for supervising the works. We cannot get ~~any one~~ if necessary men from the Survey staff.

Revenue. This seems to be a good time to undertake some good irrigation projects.
Delegation.
We have not been spending much money on irrigation improvement projects. Take.
We had hardly spent much on improvement of the Pulicat lake from the income it was also taken up. There
M. Doraisami Iyer.

~~Office~~ field establishment. When I spoke to the Deputy Superintendent of Survey about it, he told me that some of the drafters under him would not be able to work in the Malnad.

In this connection, I wish to suggest also that, since the Deputy Commissioners will have to carry on a large number of minor tank works, it is desirable to draft say one Assistant Engineer or other trained man and place him under the Deputy Commissioner to assist him in the works. This course will relieve the P.W. Branch also to some extent. I suggest that in addition to the present Sub Overseer, at least a trained Upper Subordinate ~~at least~~ of the P.W.D may be placed under the Dy. Comrs. of each District to supervise civil works there

Chief Engineer.

My present establishment has been cut down to the minimum. Five or six men have retired and their places have not yet been filled up. If required I can send old hands not urgently required for work in the dep

Dewan. You may send in your proposals for replacing these retired officials

Rev. Comr: What is the good of old and indifferent men? We want smart hard men of experience and active. Moreover I don't think there is any necessity for opening any big famine work in the P.W.D.

Dewan. But what harm is there in opening some of the big works too? for instance the Nidsale project.

~~The~~ Comptroller We should not commit ourselves ~~for~~ any large expenditure.

Chief Engineer. Perhaps instead of Nidsale, Markanhalli project may be taken up

Dewan. Yes. We may take it up. Markanhalli is in a tract most liable to famine and there is no water there left to now, we have not spent much there from the P.W.D. The work will go on for about three years or more

Comptroller. If there is a smaller work, let us do it first.

Dewan. There is no use in it. These tanks are in the affected area and this is the best opportunity to begin them. Then let us decide upon taking up Marikanhalli tank as far as Immadi is concerned. But Sir, Doraiswami Iyer will have to give us an idea of the cost, agency and all that.

About Shimoga, you have got the Bhadra project already.

Comptroller. It is a mistake to commence too many large works together.

Dewan. I think we can make up our minds to commence that also.

Comptroller. One is estimated at 14 lakhs and the other at 8 lakhs. Perhaps these will be completed in three years.

Dewan. No, it may take about 5 years.

Comptroller. There will be others coming in. Two large projects we can continue and not more.

Dewan. There will perhaps be only another small one which may not take up more than two lakhs.

Chief Engineer: There may be two projects – Kunnu vahi and Anjb...mali (?)

Dewan. If the other one is also mature, there will be demand for another two or three lakhs.

Mr: Chandy. There are two tanks in the Shimoga District which might give employment to waddars — Honnali tank and the Soolekere.

Rev: Comrs: I shall suggest to the Deputy Comrs that they may have a list of channels to be cleared in their districts This will give work to many.

Dewan. I think you are satisfied that you have got sufficient agency for supervising works.

Rev. Comrs, If Mr. Mc Hutchin will give us the help asked of him there won't be much difficulty. We may also draft a few Mestries passed from the Engineering school at Mysore for training in the Distts: If we get a list of such men available we may ask the Dy. Comrs to select out of them and train them.

Chief Engineer. Yes, it may be done.

Dewan. The Rev. Comrs may send in a proposal of his requirements.

Dewan — The next question is — the system on which officials and non-officials should be selected etc.

Rev. Comr: — It is simply intended to have a general idea. The pay that will have to be given has also to be considered. We want assistance at the time of granting gratuities and other relief. The Shekdars want circle Inspectors for which School masters may be employed and also the men from the Engineering School in addition to the non-official agency. There are also Shambhogs; and retired Shekdars may be indented upon whenever help is needed.

Dewan. — Let us have a clear idea about them. There is no loss in assigning to them different specific duties

Rev. Comr: — They can all be sent to the District Hqrs for liaising, after which they may be deputed for work in the districts.

Comptroller. — We can give you the funds for this also, as the cost will be charged to famine expenditure. The agency will be broken up as soon as it is

Dewan. The next item is about medical relief. Can you have men if need be, for medical relief in the affected tracts?

Col. Smyth. I cannot afford to give any of my hospital Assistants. Just now we are already shorthanded.

Dewan. What do you generally do for medical relief during famine?

Col. Smyth. We advertize and get men from outside the service

Rev: Comr: So long as people are kept in their own villages, there will be no necessity for this kind of relief.

Dewan. Would it not be well to advertize for men & get information as to who is willing to take up such work

Col. Smyth. Yes. All right. This may be done

Dewan. The next item is about the increase of police force. Do you want additional men, Mr. Devaraj Urs?

Mr. Devaraj Urs. A small additional police force will be required to prevent crime. We have to patrol roads. A small increase perhaps will do. But I would rather increase the number of Talis and Talaris

Dewan — You may settle that in consultation with the Rev. Comr.

Rev. Devaraj Urs. — Yes. For a Hiske policeman's pay we can have at least 3 or 4 talaries.

Rev. Comr. — During this period of distress, the Amildars will be very busy supervising the work of the Shekdars, test work and other relief works; and it is better to relieve them of their magisterial duties. Wherever there are Sub Magistrates who are capable enough, these may be entrusted with magisterial duties. They may require some good accountants also to keep proper accounts, else the whole thing will go into confusion. The Deputy Comrs also might require at least two additional hands.

Comptroller — The Comptroller's office will be if necessary, travelling auditors. But there are not sufficient. We can even may send special Accountants

Rev. Comr. — I think we may require as many Shekdars as there are now.

Dewan — You suggested some means to relieve the Shekdars. ?

Rev. Comr. — About the literary & accounts staff we want not only for my office, but also for those of the Dy. Comrs. The latter will have the ... this upto there is ... the famine code for ...

Dewan. Send in your requirements.

We now pass on to the next item, [viz. receive of tools].

Rev: Comr: In the villages they have got a certain number of tools, and whenever there is requisition we have got, some tool in the distt: Hd qrs:

Dewan. I think there is nothing lost in supplying tools to different talukas.

Chief Engineer. I don't supply tools for boring wells etc: But I have got, some tools from Calcutta.

Rev. Comr: I think each set costs about Rs 1,000. and one set may be given to each district.

Dewan You may provide for that Mr. Mc. Hutchin.

We may then pass on to the next item — financial.

Comptroller. Why not application come at the earliest stage instead of remission? It may be suspension in first instance.

Dewan. No, there is no object in it. It is the matter of a total failure of crops.

Rao. Conl:

We are giving remission now under banks where no crops were raised, and not under springs & Kapille wells where there is a total failure. This is not remission on account of famine at all. It is given under ordinary principles laid down by the Govt of India, as a principle of the land revenue system. We are bound to allow remission in such cases. We gave it in 1902 and again in 1906 We have not been giving Remission where gardens have also failed. I would recommend that these gardens also may be included and the usual rules. The amt will not be very much. It is only the remission of half the wet land revenue on the recognized principle

The other half is suspended. They practically come to no collection. The total wet assessment is some thing like 44 or 45 lakhs.

Comptroller

Second Councillor.

This rule would apply to a small area in the parts affected.

Dewan.

Let us have an estimate of the probable requirements under this head

The remission is given not on account of famine but for failure of crops according to the principles laid down by the Govt of India

Comptroller. But the principle may be adopted of having remissions only now and of remissions to be decided upon in future seasons.

Dewan. Let us get an idea of what the amounts that may have to be remitted. If the principle adopted in remitting the kuruvai years are followed now we shall then go to the question of kulbani.

Mr. Kumaraswami Naick. Though the amount of kulbani proposed to be remitted is very small, the remission will be much appreciated by the raiyats. Refund of license fees levied for grazing is not necessary.

Dewan. The next item is the remission of license fees for collecting firewood

Conservator. As it is, the raiyats are allowed to make free headloads of the firewood and carry it free. The license fee is so small that it could help or benefit the other classes of people in fuel. Persons in Dewan. affected by the cattle bullocks in bringing firewood; and also that cases you would be helping raiyats also

Conservator. I don't understand how he could be benefited by the remission. We can also remit minor products free.

Mr. Cheingiah chetty. Many people asked me in Hiriyur taluk to be allowed to remove firewood free.

Conservator. People may bring this firewood for sale to towns, and the revenue ~~benefit is little to the~~ ryots is nevertheless very much benefited.

Dewan. I think we may allow this remission in the applied lands for, sometime and see if it is really appreciated. It will be

We may then go on to the next item – remission of moholatafa.

Rev. Cons.: All people paying a moholatafa of less than eight anna ~~classes~~ may be exempted.

Dewan. The next point is — advances to be given to village officers.

Comptroller. In certain, specified portions of the affected tracts, it should not be given as a matter of course, but the distt: officer should use his discretion and see that it is given only to very deserving and exceptional cases. It is better the first instalment is given at the end of December and another in March.

Rev. Cons. The question is, what do you do

as regards the assessment on the Inamyam lands.

Hr: Doraswami Ayr. We deduct it as a matter of course. The lands are fully assessed.

Rev. Comr: Let us ~~We shall~~ have the opinion of other Dy. Comrs also.

Hr: Chengiah chetty. If you are going to ~~enhance~~ suspend assessment, something must be done in the case of these lands also.

Rev. Comr: I think in the last season Kandayam was not reconciled in the case of Shanbhogi inams. It is only the inam lands that don't get any remission. I think we need not ~~have any~~ take this fact into consideration about deductions. One instalment may be given in January and the other in March.

Dewan. The next item is payments to Totisse and the principles on which these payments are made.

You first settle this, Mr Dewaj Bro, with the Rev. Comr & send your proposals to Government.

Dewan.. The next item on the list viz. employment of literate men in Distt: offices etc., stands already decided. We shall next consider the question of arrangements for securing regular supply of grains.

Rev: Couts: I wish to suggest that some advances may be given to particular merchants, for the purpose of their being able to hold some quantity of grain in reserve. The principle of free trade does not hold good in small places. Some 10 or 20 pallas may be held in reserve and may be available at any moment of necessity. The Dy. Comrs will have to settle this with the local merchants. The cost may be estimated at 40 to 50 Thousand Rupees. In the Kolar District, they are importing grain from other adjoining districts. There is not much export now as prices have risen.

This is particularly necessary at small village centres which is the only source of supply to the rice growing villages if because of want of foodstuffs or because of the very high prices charged for them, it is not possible to the villagers are unable to purchase their weekly stock of provisions, these merchants will be required to bring out their reserve and meet the situation.

Dewan (Passing over the next two items) The last item is about implement to Amildars -

There is a proposal from the Rev. Couts to place an indent of

Rs 300/- in the hands of the Asistdars. This is provided for in the Famine Code as under which they may be given an advance of Rs 300/- each.

Comptroller.

Of course all the officers in connection with famine have to be given big advances. and only Distt: officers have may be given advances which they will distribute among chief Superintendents and Circle officers. The Dy. Comrs should be held responsible for the expenditure.

We may leave it to the discretion of Dy Comrs.

G.R.S. 26]

Agri File No. 100-8

Serial No 9

Diary No. of letter replied to _____

No. 5

R. 4878 to 4914

General and Rev. Secretariat
(.)
, the 190 .

To

All Heads of Departments
and Deputy Chiefs of Districts.

Date of issue 17.1.1909

Signed by Work V. A

Sir,

Referring to para 10 of Govt Progs. No. 4332-79 ~~dated the~~ Agri 105-08-1 dated the 4th Jan'y 1909, I am directed to forward herewith Copies of the Proceedings of the Conference referred to therein, and to request that the same may be distributed among the Officers Subordinate to You for their information.

I have &c

for Secretary.

9/1/09

over.

R. 4878.
4879
4880
4881
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4914.

SUBJECT.

Copied

11/1.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE HELD IN THE PUBLIC OFFICE BUILDINGS AT BANGALORE ON THE 7TH DECEMBER 1908.

Proceedings of the Conference held in the Public Office Buildings at Bangalore on the 7th December 1908.

PRESENT.

V. P. MADHAVA RAO, ESQ., B.A., C.I.E., Dewan (Presiding).

T. ANANDA RAO, ESQ., B.A., (First Councillor).

K. P. PUTTANNA CHETTY, ESQ., (Second Councillor).

A. RANGASAMI IYENGAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L., (Revenue Commissioner).

E. MACONOCHIE, ESQ., I.C.S., (Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja).

K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR, ESQ., B.A., B.L., (General and Revenue Secretary).

J. S. CHAKRAVARTI, ESQ., M.A., F.R.A.S., (Comptroller to Government).

LT.-COL. J. SMYTH, I.M.S., (Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner).

W. MCHUTCHIN, ESQ., (Chief Engineer).

H. H. SPARKES, ESQ., (Excise Commissioner).

D. DEVARAJA URS, ESQ., (Inspector-General of Police).

M. MUTHANNAH, ESQ., (Conservator of Forests).

B. J. KUMARASWAMI NAIK, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore).

M. CHENGIAH CHETTY, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Chitaldrug).

K. R. SRINIVASIENGAR, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Kadur).

C. SRIKANTESWARA AIYAR, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Kolar).

K. CHANDY, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga).

K. S. DORASWAMI IYER, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Tumkur).

P. R. W. WETHERALL, ESQ., (Deputy Commissioner, Hassan).

C. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., (Assistant Commissioner, French Rocks Sub-division, representing the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore).

The Dewan opened the proceedings by reading the following brief description of the seasonal conditions and prospects of the State :—

GENTLEMEN.—You know that we are met here with a view to concerting measures for dealing with a severe scarcity which will deepen into famine if the early rains of next year are not as seasonable and full as usual.

The season of the previous year was unfavourable and the harvest was deficient. This year, the south-west monsoon was irregular and deficient, and this added to the failure of the north-east monsoon and the consequent shortage of crops, and particularly the failure of the tank filling rains, has made the situation rather critical. The prices of food grains have also gone up to nearly double of what they were in the scarcity of 1891-92. The cattle are the greatest sufferers and they have been taken in large numbers to the malnad tracts, and to the reserved forests in the State.

The poorer raiyats and also the holiyars and madigas in villages seem to have left for the malnad and coffee plantations in search of work in larger numbers than usual, particularly from Nagamangala, parts of Mandya Taluk, Kunigal and Tiptur.

The question we have to consider is, what are the measures to be adopted to find work for the labouring population, and fodder and water for the cattle? I may note here that the Swati rains in the last week of October and early part of November appeared to be favourable, and we were in hopes that if these were followed by the Visakha rains, all ground for anxiety would disappear. But when it was found that the north-east monsoon was a total failure, the Revenue Commissioner at once started on a tour to see the state of things for himself, and set on foot the measures necessary for meeting the threatened distress.

I may tell you briefly the action taken by the Government from the time it became clear to them that the season was going to be an unfavourable one. The Government ordered the District officers to supply them with daily information as to the rainfall and other local conditions. They have kept a careful watch over the progress of the season and have sanctioned grants as shown below.

A sum of Rs. 90,750 was sanctioned in the first instance for being advanced to raiyats under the Land Improvement Loans Regulation and the Takavi Rules, and a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 for earthwork to minor tanks. A sum of Rs. 20,000 has also been sanctioned for such works as sinking drinking-water wells and improving village sanitation. The amounts provided for loans under the Land Improvement Loans Regulation and the Takavi Rules and for drinking-water wells are said to have been fully utilized, as also half the sum sanctioned for advances to raiyats to do earthwork to minor tanks. An additional sum of Rs. 1,00,000 has been provided for loans under the Land Improvement Loans Regulation, etc., and a sum of Rs. 50,000 for Local Fund works. A sum of Rs. 20,000 has been granted for providing gratuitous relief to the old and the infirm. Rs. 30,000 have been sanctioned for advances for the relief of weavers and other industrial classes and for the supply of fodder. Extra allowances have been sanctioned on account of the high prices of food stuffs to certain classes of officials on Civil establishments in the Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur, Kadur and Shimoga Districts, and it is under contemplation to extend the concession to the other districts and to the officials of the Public Works and Military Departments.

Sometime after the Revenue Commissioner had started on tour, I also made a tour on two different occasions, visiting the affected tracts in the Hassan, Chitaldrug, Shimoga, Mysore and Tumkur Districts, and parts of the Kolar and Bangalore Districts. I was everywhere struck with the poorness of the harvests, in some places the dry crops having withered altogether, and no attempts having been made to grow wet crops. Barring a few tanks which had received a supply in the phenomenally heavy rain that fell in a few tracts in the latter part of October, the tanks as a rule were more or less dry. Cattle were being driven in large numbers, mostly

from parts of the Nagamangala Taluk, Mandya Taluk, and the central and western parts of the Tumkur District towards the jungles of Heggaddevankote and Gundlupet, the Lakkavalli, Benkipur and other forests and also towards the Bukkapatna forest. Before we proceed to other subjects we have first to devise measures for providing fodder and water for the cattle until the next *mungar* rains come. I noticed some cattle which had been taken to the Bukkapatna forest returning to a village in Tiptur owing to difficulty of water in the Bukkapatna and surrounding forests. There was also apparently delay in the communication of orders throwing the reserved forests open to free grazing. The District Forest Officer, Mr. Srinivasa Rao, assured the men that every facility would be given for water by digging holes and opening out springs, and that the Bukkapatna forest alone was capable of accommodating 20,000 head of cattle. I am sure that this fact has been made public. The raiyats of Tiptur and adjoining taluks will find sufficient water and fodder for their cattle in the Bukkapatna and adjoining forests, and the Conservator has promised to give every facility for cutting grass in the reserved forests, and for transporting it in compressed bales to the different railway stations in the affected tracts. I am sure he will be able to explain to us what measures have been adopted by him in the way of providing fodder for cattle in the different State Forests to which cattle have been driven by the raiyats. It will be a good arrangement if the Forest officers of the locality could, with the help of the Local Revenue officers, instruct the raiyats bringing cattle where to go for fodder and water.

As regards the measures of relief of different kinds to be adopted, you have been already supplied with a memo of the points that will be discussed at this conference. I hope we shall be able to arrive at some decision as to the lines on which we should work.

One point I should lay stress upon at this stage, and that is the desirability of enlisting the co-operation of village, Taluk and District Committees in every kind of relief that will be administered, and particularly gratuitous relief. What struck me in the short tours that I have made in connection with the present distress is the interest, members of the Taluk and District Boards, and particularly members of the Representative Assembly, evince in measures connected with the relief of distress, and the readiness with which they come forward to help the Government officials in making the relief measures effective, and making them reach the classes most in need of them. I would request the District officers to enlist as largely as possible the help and co-operation of this non-official and representative element.

We will now proceed to take up the points put down for discussion.

DEWAN.—The first question for us to consider is the determination of the affected tracts, their area, population, etc.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—We are not quite ready at this stage with information as to the precise area of the affected tracts. We may roughly say what portions of taluks are affected. Generally speaking, I think in the Bangalore District, the principal portion is in the Solur and other hoblis to the north of the Kunigal road, that is, the portion where the Deputy Commissioner recommended test works. In the Tumkur District, the principal portions are—the Kunigal Taluk, the Turuvekere Sub-Taluk, portions of Tiptur and portions of two hoblis of Tumkur Taluk, and almost the whole of the Pavagada Taluk and parts of Sira and Maddagiri. In the Hassan District—Channarayapatna and Arsikere Taluks, and the Deputy Commissioner says some portions of Belur on the Halebid side are also affected.

In the Kadur District, it is only the northern side of Kadur Taluk that is chiefly affected. In the Chikmagalur Taluk also a few villages are badly off.

In the Shimoga District, the Deputy Commissioner has not indicated the tracts clearly, but it seems that portions of Channagiri and Shimoga Taluks are affected.

In the Chitaldrug District, we have got the Hosdurga Taluk, portions of Hiriyur and Challakere, and Davangere and a few villages round about.

In the Mysore District, the Nagamangala Taluk generally and Basarhalli and Maglur hoblis in the Mandya Taluk.

FIRST COUNCILLOR.—Is not Sira affected?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Not the whole of it, but portions of it here and there. Sira had some rains lately.

DEWAN.—It is so difficult to give a general description of the affected tracts, because conditions are so different at different places within a few furlongs from one another.

Are we in possession of information as regards the percentage of people who might stand in need of the different kinds of relief?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Instructions have been given for collecting the requisite information according to the directions laid down in the Famine Code. I do not think that the Shekdars and other village officers have completed the work. It is in the course of compilation, and from what Mr. Doraswami Iyer and Mr. Srikanteswara Iyer told me, the information will be ready by the 15th of this month.

When I went on tour, I also made it a point to examine everywhere the crop reports in the Pahani registers, where the area sown is entered. But the village officials do not know how to enter the proportionate yield and they are not therefore able to give the details from which the total out-turn might be calculated. I instructed them how to do it. When this is done, they will be able to give the entire details exactly.

DEWAN.—That information also will be ready by the 15th of this month, I believe.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Yes. Both the Khaneshumari and the Pahani registers will be ready.

MR. KUMARASWAMI NAIK.—I do not think it will be ready in my district. Detailed information cannot be given as to the actual estimate of the wet crops—both *Mungar* and *Hingar*. In the localities visited by me I have made some rough estimates, but these are mostly for my information.

MR. CHANDY.—In my district also, it will take two or three weeks more to get the information. But perhaps a rough estimate may be given now.

MR. SRINIVASIENGAR.—We may form some estimate of the *Mungar* crop now, but we will have to wait till February for the *Hingar* crop. Even now the people think that if there is some rain some of these crops will be saved.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—According to the instructions issued by me you may give the approximate estimates as regards both the first and the second crops now, and verify these estimates by the results of the subsequent inspection to be made in February. I have not had time to check the Pahani inspection in the Bangalore District, but the same method may also be adopted there.

DEWAN.—In order to calculate the number of the people in need of relief no actual inspection of individual cases is required; it is sufficient to adopt the standard fixed in the Code. The numbers may then be calculated easily.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—This may be done within a week.

DEWAN.—Now we go to the sub-item, *viz.*, loans and advances of various kinds including loans to industrial classes. What is the allotment under these heads made to the districts? Have you got figures for these?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—We know what we have allotted; but that will not give any idea of the actual requirements for the season. We now go on the principle of giving as much as is demanded just to test the existing conditions.

DEWAN.—Have any districts taken action under the head "Loans to industrial classes"?

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—The grants allotted to my district are Rs. 26,015 for loans under "Land Improvement, etc." and Rs. 2,000 for weavers. Of these I have sanctioned for loans for irrigation wells Rs. 9,100; Rs. 4,015 have already been spent in Challakere and Molakalmuru. I have applied for another additional grant. I have also given loans of about Rs. 2,350 for other kinds of land improvements, and Takavi advances to the extent of Rs. 1,150 for purchase of fodder, of bullocks, etc.

DEWAN.—Are advances given for the purchase of bullocks also? Is it necessary to give these advances now? There is no cultivation going on. How will the raiyats be able to maintain these bullocks?

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—In the forests we have got grass as also in Marikanave. We have been allowing grass to be cut and removed freely without any payment.

The only question to be decided is about advances for subsistence allowance to the people. We have not yet commenced them. But there are many applications for it.

DEWAN.—Is this a proper kind of relief allowed by the Rules?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Yes. There is provision for it in the Rules.

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—If we begin to advance amounts for subsistence about Rs. 10 lakhs will be required in my district alone. It is necessary therefore to impose some limit.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Take the Khaneshumari and see if all applicants are really in need. Also see that you give advances only to land-holders.

MR. K. R. SRINIVASIENGAR.—In my district I have already commenced giving loans of this description. I have done so on certain definite principles. I have made rigid enquiries as to how far the applicants have been unfit to earn their livelihood. To those who are agriculturists, loans are given on the security of their lands. Suppose a family consists of an old man, a woman and children, and the old man is not able to go and work for his livelihood either from old age, infirmity or any other sufficient cause. Or suppose the occupant is a woman. In such cases I advance Rs. 5 or 6 per month, in no case exceeding Rs. 20. In this way up to now I have spent about Rs. 200. I explained to the raiyats the grounds on which such loans would be given and they were quite satisfied with the procedure.

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—In my district also there were about 1,041 applicants for these loans from men who had seen better days. They all wanted Takavi advances at Kunigal to buy fodder, etc.

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—Lately I also issued a circular to all my Amildars stating that the concession will be given only to land-holders and specifying four classes of these to whom relief would be given. These are:—

(1) The infirm and the aged who cannot go and work for their living.

(2) Respectable people who cannot be made to work on roads and tanks.

(3) Widows with children who cannot earn their livelihood by going to work.

(4) Men who have got *kapile* wells but who cannot go outside for work.

I calculated the amount required on the basis that each family consists of five members and requires 72 rupees for six months.

DEWAN.—Suppose every cultivating raiyat applies for a loan. What would be the amount required?

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—We give only to those who cannot go to work, I think about Rs. 10,000 will be required in the affected parts in the Chitaldrug District. I have got applications for about one lakh of rupees from all the taluks, but if these loans are given properly not more than Rs. 30,000 will be required for the whole district.

DEWAN.—I think that for the present we may accept the principle that infirm and aged people and women who cannot be made to go and work should be given loans if they are able to furnish sufficient landed security. What would the amount required for these loans be, and what if even able-bodied agriculturists who are not willing to go on the works have to be similarly assisted? These loans may greatly reduce the necessity for gratuitous relief on an extended scale.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—We may be able to collect these figures in a week.

COMPTROLLER.—Loans should be given to agriculturists for maintaining themselves when they are actually working in their fields, and not when they are free to

take up other work. In the latter case they must be made to go and work. Otherwise we shall be practically anticipating the grant of gratuitous relief and departing from the provisions of the Famine Code.

DEWAN.—In the United Provinces they found it necessary to depart considerably from the provisions of the Famine Code and the question simply is whether by doing so we shall be able to relieve distress and help the people better.

COMPTROLLER.—But it is certainly objectionable to spend money in maintaining people who are able to work.

DEWAN.—We give loans expecting to recover the full amount. The idea is not to give these loans indiscriminately. Let us find out from the experience of Deputy Commissioners as to who are the people that are likely to apply for these loans.

MR. WETHERALL.—In the case of an application that was received in the Arsikere Taluk, landed security was required to be given and the applicant withdrew it. There has been a number of other applications but these require investigation. It is doubtful if any persons not really in need will come forward for such loans, as they have to furnish landed security.

MR. NARAYAN RAO, MYSORE.—We had 200 applications for subsistence allowance.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—It is necessary to give these loans as doing so will keep the agriculturists in their houses, and it is very important that they should be in a position to commence their field operations as soon as the rains fall. By giving loans to agriculturists we assist them in two ways. We help them to improve their lands and also enable them to maintain themselves until they are in a position to resume their ordinary occupations. After all, the amount required for each family cannot be large. Supposing it consists of five members. When they do not all work they do not require the same quantity of food. A rupee or a rupee and a half would be a liberal allowance for each member per month. So we need not advance more than five rupees for each family. Many agriculturists do not go out on works until they reach almost the verge of starvation, and we should prevent that. The loan will be repaid in two or three years. With these loans and whatever crops they are able to save, the agriculturists will be able to maintain themselves; and in this way the number of people for whom Government will have to find employment will be reduced.

COMPTROLLER.—Do not many of the agriculturists in the State supplement their earnings by going out for work, and what objection can there be in requiring these people to go on the works? How are we to guard ourselves against unnecessary advances? For if each application is granted the total amount to be provided for will be something enormous, and it will not be easy for the Deputy Commissioners to distinguish those that really need help. Some may borrow money simply to lend it out.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Most land-holders and even "waram" cultivators live on the produce of their own lands. They do not seek other work. It is these people who have to be mostly assisted. Even if they are made to go on works, their dependents will have to be supported. That cannot be helped. No one is likely to mortgage his lands unless it is absolutely necessary; and as no large amount will be advanced there is no risk that any money-lending cultivators will take these loans.

MR. K. R. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—My experience is that people are not ready to ask for this kind of relief. It is the man who is really pinched that comes forward for it. One villager assured me that in his whole village there will not be more than two or three families coming and seeking aid. Especially, as lands are demanded as collateral security for the loans given, the raiyats are not as ready to come forward as otherwise they would perhaps do.

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—I got applications to the value of Rs. 68,115 from 1,041 people for Takavi advances, and for land improvement and irrigation wells to the value of Rs. 1,31,000.

Three-fourths of these applications are from Tiptur, Kunigal, Gubbur and Mayasandra. My impression is that as far as the agriculturists are concerned they are averse to going on works. They merely want something to keep them on. Loans for the maintenance of agriculturists answer this purpose best. We need not press money on the raiyats but must comply with all reasonable demands. Many of the applications for loans are made without any regard to real necessity. Such applications are easily found out and rejected. The necessity to provide adequate landed security will greatly reduce the number of the applications.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—As the Dewan remarked in the opening address, organised committees will be able to give us help in discriminating between deserving and undeserving cases. The respectable raiyats of the neighbourhood, working with the Amildar or the Assistant Commissioner, will be able to say how much may be given to the different applicants.

DEWAN.—I think the rules for advances on account of irrigation wells and land improvement are very clear and definite, and no supplemental instructions are necessary. But it is only with regard to advances for the subsistence of the raiyat and for fodder for cattle that we have to lay down a definite policy. As regards advances for subsistence, all are agreed that it is necessary to make them to all persons who from age, bodily infirmity, or sex are unable to work even if they are not land-holders, if they are able to furnish proper security. It is only in the case of able-bodied persons that it is necessary to consider whether similar loans should be given and on what principles. Before passing any definite orders, we should know how much money we shall have to provide if loans are given to all agriculturists able to furnish security, whether they are physically capable of working or not. If the amounts are not large we may sanction them as some of these people may have to be relieved gratuitously later on.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—As they may have saved some of their grain, it will not be necessary to give loans to meet the entire expenses of subsistence. Those that can afford to borrow for sinking wells, etc., will not require loans for subsistence. So if we calculate at 12 or 15 seers for each member on an average per month or a rupee and a quarter for each member it will be ample. Security may be taken for the whole amount to be advanced, and the amount itself advanced in instalments.

SECOND COUNCILLOR.—Why not make it applicable to all raiyats provided they have proper security?

COMPTROLLER.—So long as there is adequate security you may give advances. But the only thing is, we should not undertake anything like feeding say about 40 or 50 per cent of the population; because we have not got money to meet the expenditure. If you give loans to practically all raiyats and land-holders for 5 or 6 months, or if you want to feed half the population of Mysore, where is the money to come from? Local officers have to decide as to how much of the population would come forward for loans.

MR. KUMARASWAMI NAIK.—Those that cannot give security will go and work on the works. The advance will be limited to the affected area only.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—It is not the whole Province. Advances will be given only in the affected tracts which form about a fourth of the Province or still less.

COMPTROLLER.—If it is one-fourth, the amount will come to 15 lakhs.

DEWAN.—What is the number of patta holders in the State? At the rate of half a seer per member in a family of five members the amount advanced will be much less than that given out as wages.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—It will never exceed Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 per family. And before you commence to lend, it will be January.

DEWAN.—Can you give figures for the affected tracts, Mr. Kumaraswami Naik?

MR. KUMARASWAMI NAIK.—The affected tracts in my district are—Magadi, Channapatna, Kankanhalli and Anekal and 23 villages in the Bangalore Taluk or 244 villages in the entire tract with a population of 69,000 and an area of 45 sq. miles. And none of my people or cattle are going out.

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—In my district the area of the affected tract is 1,415 sq. miles with a population of 1,21,000.

MR. SRINIVASIENGAR.—400 sq. miles of my district with a population of about 70 or 75 thousand.

MR. SRIKANTESWARA IYER.—The affected area is 815 sq. miles with a total population of 1,61,000 of whom 18,000 belong to the Industrial classes. For purposes of our present enquiry, the agricultural population may be taken at 1,17,000.

DEWAN.—The maximum would be only 5 or 6 rupees per pattadar per month.

MR. PUTTANNA CHETTY.—Suppose a pattadar pays only 2 or 3 rupees assessment.

DEWAN.—Such people can go on works.

COMPTROLLER.—We cannot afford to give comparatively small loans to very small land-holders. They must go on works. We may say that those who pay a revenue of so much and upwards will be given such loans and will be entitled to remain at home and employ labourers for works on their lands.

DEWAN.—Our assumption is that a family of pattadars will require at least six rupees a month for six months, *i.e.*, Rs. 36. If a pattadar has got property which is worth that amount an advance will be given.

COMPTROLLER.—Provided the total number of pattadars is not large.

MR. CHANDY.—I estimate the area of the affected tracts at 200 sq. miles.

MR. NARAYANA RAO.—The affected area in the Mysore District is about 225 sq. miles including that of Mandya, with a population of 66,000.

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—The area of my district is about 3,000 sq. miles and practically the whole district is affected.

(By rough calculation, it was found out that there would be 1½ lakhs of pattadars in the affected area, exclusive of those paying an assessmentof Rs. 5).

DEWAN.—I think that the understanding may be taken to be that we will decide on the loans to be given for subsistence and for fodder on the receipt of an estimate from you as to the number of persons that will require relief of that kind.

As for patta holders who are unable either from sex, age or infirmity to go on the relief works, there is no objection to advances being given to them on the security of their lands. The extension of this principle to all patta holders will depend upon the estimates sent by you as to the requirements and on the amount that the Government can afford for this kind of relief.

COMPTROLLER.—If you also lay down the maximum limit of kandayam which has to be paid by a person before he is eligible for a loan, it would be better. The concession may be extended only to those who pay more than a certain amount. I am only trying to lay down some restrictions by which the class to which this loan may be granted could be reduced as much as possible—say all pattadars who pay ten rupees and less will have to go on works and others may get loans.

DEWAN.—There is the security clause and I think that will be self adjusting.

COMPTROLLER.—Even the smallest holder will demand a loan proportionate to his holding. So the minimum of the loan should be fixed.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—The smaller holdings should be excluded altogether.

COMPTROLLER.—I still think both the maximum and the minimum may be fixed.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—We need not give loans less than 15 rupees. And when the lands are not worth Rs. 15 the smaller holdings will be automatically excluded and we need not give more than Rs. 36 or 50.

COMPTROLLER.—That will be self adjusting.

DEWAN.—Then may I take it that you are for fixing Rs. 15 as the minimum and Rs. 50 as the maximum?

All agreed to this.

DEWAN.—But what about fodder? Do you propose to give loans for fodder also?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Cattle actually worked and used for kapile wells and which cannot be taken out should also have relief according to the actual number so employed.

COMPTROLLER.—Let the District officers give us an estimate and we shall consider the question afterwards. Perhaps the loan may be given on the same security.

DEWAN.—We have calculated on the bare requirements of men and we cannot combine this also with it. Suppose we say, subsistence for men and for fodder for cattle.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think we will have to give relief in both cases. In any case, the security question has a bearing on this also. I don't think we need give advances for fodder in Shimoga, Kadur and portions of Chitaldrug. Kunigal and Nagamangala may require this concession chiefly.

DEWAN.—The question is whether we have to include it in this calculation or provide for it separately.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—It will depend on the other facilities that may be provided for for fodder.

DEWAN.—What will a raiyat require for feeding his cattle for six months? How many head of cattle can you allow under this?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think a pair for each family.

DEWAN.—What are the charges necessary for maintaining two bullocks and a cow.

MR. SRIKANTESWARA IYER.—In the last season of scarcity we granted large advances at Davangere. I gave as much as Rs. 20 for fodder. This year in Bethamangala and other hoblis of the Kolar District no man has yet taken more than Rs. 10 for the whole season. The raiyat goes to the nearest place, brings fodder with the amount advanced, and stocks it with him.

COMPTROLLER.—Then the loan may be fixed at an amount not exceeding Rs. 15.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Rs. 20 may be maximum and nothing less than Rs. 10 need be given.

MR. CHANDY.—Then it will be Rs. 25 minimum and Rs. 70 maximum per pattadar on the same security for both kinds of loans.

DEWAN.—Suppose there is demand only for fodder; what is the rate you would allow to each pattadar?

COMPTROLLER.—No minimum need be fixed.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think minimum may be Rs. 10 and maximum Rs. 20.

COMPTROLLER.—Yes. When a man applies for loan for fodder alone, a minimum may be fixed to reduce the number of small accounts. That proposed by the Revenue Commissioner may be adopted.

It was agreed that the minimum should be fixed at Rs. 10 and the maximum at Rs. 20.

DEWAN.— What is the proportion put down for gratuitous relief?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Three per cent of the population in the affected tracts. The population affected is 10 lakhs and so about 30,000 persons will have to be given gratuitous relief at the rate of about 10 or 15 seers a month. And the total amount of expenditure on this account will be Rs. 2,20,000, the maximum amount for 6 months.

DEWAN.—We will note this down for orders.

COMPTROLLER.—Perhaps there will be public kitchens also.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Yes.

DEWAN.—What is the number of people that will have to be given relief of all kinds?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—We may take three per cent for the purpose of gratuitous relief and five per cent for loans, including those for dependents. Those who take loans will, as a rule, not require any other relief. The number to be actually given gratuitous relief or provided with work will be about 70,000. These will have to be paid at the rate of four rupees per month per family. In this calculation we count for dependents also who will cost less. So, if we pay at two annas per head per day it will cover all the expenditure of the family. The total cost works up to 2,80,000 a month or Rs. 16,80,000 for 6 months.

DEWAN.—Then we shall go to the next item drinking-water wells, etc. How many permanent wells are required?

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—It will depend on the number of villages suffering from scarcity of water.

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—I have already spent Rs. 13,500 (sanctioned estimate) for 65 wells in the affected area. I might require another 100 wells to be dug. Calculating at the above rate, I might require about Rs. 20,000 more.

MR. K. R. SRINIVASAIENGAR.—I have not got any figures here. But I think I have got about three or four thousand rupees from the District Funds and I ought to be able to manage to meet my requirements within that amount. If I only got another five thousand rupees, I can meet all requirements in this direction.

MR. SRIKANTESWARA IYER.—I have dug 370 temporary wells at a cost of Rs. 18,000. I have got Rs. 13,000 and I may require another Rs. 20,000 to meet further needs.

MR. CHANDY.—I require about Rs. 15,000.

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—I want Rs. 20,000 more, or including the grant already sanctioned, Rs. 32,000.

MR. WETHERALL.—I require Rs. 8,000.

DEWAN.—We have already discussed the fodder question. We shall go on to the next item in the list, *viz.*, forests. You have heard, Mr. Muttannah, what I said in my opening speech in regard to the opinion of Mr. Srinivasa Rao about the forest in his charge.

CONSERVATOR.—I cannot say that the information given by Mr. Srinivasa Rao is quite correct. There is absolutely no spring within the whole forest and the mining people had to dig 300 feet before they got water.

DEWAN.—I asked Mr. Srinivasa Rao to give wide publicity to the facts mentioned by him and to assure the local raiyats also about the same.

CONSERVATOR.—Outside the forest perhaps you can find water but not inside The question of water in these forests is of great importance to the cattle. I think we want a large number of wells in these forests. There is dry grass there though of inferior quality, but no water.

DEWAN.—Have you made arrangements in consultation with the Deputy Commissioners to receive the cattle coming from the districts?

CONSERVATOR.—Yes. Every District Forest Officer has been informed. The Deputy Commissioners have asked me to open some forests in Tumkur, Chitaldrug and Kolar.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Mr. K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar informs me that there is plenty of water and grass in the malnad forests near Koppa, Kudremukh and other places on that side. I think that if we can make arrangements for taking charge of the cattle by the forest authorities and sending them by batches to forests where grass and water are available and also persuade the raiyats of the neighbouring villages to depute 4 or 5 people among them to be in charge of 50 or 100 head of cattle, giving these people subsistence allowance, we shall be able to take care of the cattle effectively.

DEWAN.—From my observation, I found that these people did not go with a small number of cattle but went in charge of a very large number.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I have made enquiries also. Cattle are sometimes taken in batches, one man being in charge of each batch. But it is often difficult to get a sufficient number of cattle in one village. I recommend that, when people

cannot go themselves on account of the small number of cattle that they have to take, these may be taken over by Government and sent in herds.

DEWAN.—When the cattle leave the village, the Amildar should be instructed to place himself in communication with the forest officer in charge of the forest to which the cattle are going, so that the Forest Officer may know and make suitable arrangements for taking care of the cattle.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Yes. The Amildars may be instructed to do so.

DEWAN.—Mr. Muttannah will instruct his men also.

CONSERVATOR.—Yes. In the Mysore District there is not much difficulty for water in the forest. It is only in Channagiri and Lakvalli forests that I want a number of wells.

DEWAN.—Send an estimate of your requirements and we shall consider. The understanding is that the Deputy Commissioner shall instruct his Taluk Amildars to communicate to the District Forest Officer to whose forest the cattle are going and also to inform the people of the forests to which cattle may be taken.

MR. SRINIVASA IYENGAR.—There is one precaution to be taken as any general fire will destroy all fodder. My District Forest Officer told me that if special precautions are not taken, there is danger of all fodder being burnt.

CONSERVATOR.—If you put the cattle under the charge of the Forest Officers, then there will not be much difficulty about fires. But if the raiyats are left to themselves they cannot take as much care as forest officials. It will be possible to arrange to have all the cattle taken care of by forest officials.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—This is desirable as the villagers are very careless and will cook anywhere without any precautions.

DEWAN.—Give publicity to the fact that if these people go with a chit from the Amildar their cattle will be taken charge of by the Forest Officer and taken care of for a small fee.

The next point is about cutting grass. Have you got grass plots close to the cattle?

CONSERVATOR.—We have got areas close to cattle. But grazing will not be permitted in portions reserved for cutting.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Cattle should not be allowed to tresspass on portions in which cutting is possible. We can get plenty of paddy straw from the Malnad.

DEWAN.—Have you started cutting on a large scale? That will give employment to a large number of people. You may keep this in view and do the needful.

CONSERVATOR.—Yes. But I have got only one press with me so far.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—In the United Provinces some presses may be available and why not communicate with them?

DEWAN.—The next question is whether village works or Public Works should be chiefly relied on in particular areas. Have you got, Mr. Doraswami Iyer, sufficient number of small village works?

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—I have put down for the present 26 works in Kunigal sufficient for 68,955 units out of the Famine relief programme. This will last for about two or three months. As these works are completed, we shall take others in the same locality. I think we may take up District Fund works now in preference to large works, in addition to the works that are going on in the usual course in the Public Works Department.

CHIEF ENGINEER.—The estimate for Public Works Department work now on hand, namely, at Nidsalay is Rs. 99,000 with half a lakh on earthwork. There is another project (Markonahalli) which is estimated at 8 lakhs.

DEWAN.—Can Mr. Chakravarti give us money if we start this 8 lakhs project? It is a protective work, paying and desirable in every way, and will ensure the permanency of the springs in the Shimsha river and be altogether one of the best projects in a tract where water will be very much appreciated. And then there is the Marikanave. Suppose you shift the population for the affected tracts to Marikanave. There you have under consideration a project for extending the channel. Will it not afford work to the people if you begin to carry out the project?

THE DEWAN.—Yes, we may take it up. Markonhalli is in a tract most liable to famine and there is no water there. Up to now we have not spent much there from the Public Works Department. The work will go on for about three years or so.

THE COMPTROLLER.—If there is a smaller work, let us take it up first.

THE DEWAN.—There is no use in it. These tanks are in the affected area and this is the best opportunity to begin them. Let us then decide upon taking up Markonhalli tank as far as Tumkur is concerned. But Mr. Doraswami Iyer will have to give us an idea of the cost, agency, etc.

About Shimoga we have got the Bhadra project already.

THE COMPTROLLER.—I think it is a mistake to commence too many large works together.

THE DEWAN.—I think we can make up our minds to commence that also.

THE COMPTROLLER.—One is estimated at 14 lakhs and the other at 8 lakhs. Perhaps they will be completed in three years.

THE DEWAN.—No. It may go on to 5 years.

THE COMPTROLLER.—There will be others coming in. Two large projects we can continue, but not more.

THE DEWAN.—There will perhaps be another small one which may not take up more than two lakhs.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER.—There may be two, the Kumadwati and the Ambligola project.

THE DEWAN.—If the other one is also mature, there will be a demand for two or three lakhs more.

MR. CHANDY.—There are two tanks in the Shimoga District which might give employment to waddars, the Honnali Tank and the Sulekere Tank.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I shall suggest to the Deputy Commissioners that they may also have a list of channels to be cleared in their districts. This will give work to many.

THE DEWAN.—Have you got sufficient agency for supervision?

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—If Mr. McHutchin will give us the help asked of him there won't be much difficulty. We may also draft a few Mestries from those who have passed out of the Engineering School at Mysore and train them in the districts. If we get a list of the men available, we may ask the Deputy Commissioners to select persons out of them and train them.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER.—Yes. It may be done.

THE DEWAN.—The Revenue Commissioner may send in his proposals regarding his requirements.

THE DEWAN.—The next question is as to the system on which officials and non-officials should be selected.

System of selection of official and non-official agency.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—The proposition is put forward merely to have a general idea. The pay that will have to be given has also got to be considered. We want assistance at the time of granting gratuitous and other relief. The shekdars want assistance when employed as Circle Inspectors. We may perhaps employ schoolmasters and men from the Engineering Schools in addition to non-official agency. There are also shanbhogs and retired shekdars who may be indented upon whenever help is needed.

THE DEWAN.—Let us have a clear idea about them. There is no harm likely to be caused in having the men in readiness and assigning to them different specific duties.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—They can all be sent to District Head-quarters for training, after which they may be deputed for work.

THE COMPTROLLER.—We can give you the funds for this also, as the cost will be charged to Famine expenditure and the agency will be broken up as soon as the necessity ceases.

CHIEF ENGINEER.—No, it will take some time to get the project ready. Only waddars are now employed there on small works. Of course, others would find work too. Another lakh and a half may be spent in completing the present programme itself.

COMPTROLLER.—I think I can find funds if it is a protective work and will give employment mostly to unskilled labour and is in close proximity to the affected areas. A project in a sparsely populated part is of no use as a relief work.

REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—The tract round Marikanave is getting populated. Many applications for land under the Marikanave Reservoir have been granted. Although I do not apprehend that many of the Challakere people would come there, still the project is a very advantageous one. We shall keep this project in reserve. If we find that we are running short of works, we may at any time transfer gangs of men to this spot and begin work. The locality is not, moreover, far from Hosdurga where relief is needed. So, I suggest that this project may be kept in readiness, so that, if necessary, it may be started three months hence.

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—I want the Parasarampur project also to be taken up. The estimated cost is Rs. 2,54,000. I have got a memo ready with me in that connection.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I have obtained the file relating to this project from the Chief Engineer for study and you may give your memo to me.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER.—The channel is 70 miles long. The original estimate for the project will be exceeded by at least 500 per cent!

THE DEWAN.—Let us then proceed to the next item about the agency for carrying out these works. Is not a list of the agency available prepared for all the districts? I find Mr. Wetherall has got such a list for Village Relief Works in his district. Have you got any for Tumkur?

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—Yes, I have.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think 60 per cent of the influential men in a taluk will be available for supervising the works. We can get men, if necessary, from the Survey Superintendent's field establishment. When I spoke to the Deputy Superintendent of Survey about it, he told me that some of the 'daftars' under him will not be able to work in the malnad.

In this connection I wish to suggest also that as Deputy Commissioners will have to carry on a large number of minor tank works, it is desirable to draft an Assistant Engineer or other trained man to each district and place him under the Deputy Commissioner to assist him in these works. This course will relieve the Public Works Budget to some extent. I would suggest that, as an alternative, in addition to the present Sub-Overseer, at least a trained upper subordinate of the Public Works Department may be placed under the Deputy Commissioner of each district to supervise Civil works.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER.—My present establishment has been cut down to a minimum. Five or six men have been retired and their places have not yet been filled up. If required I can send old hands not urgently required for work in the Department.

THE DEWAN.—You may send in your proposals for replacing the retired officials.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—What is the good of old and inefficient men? We want smart and active men with experience. Such men could, I think, be easily spared as the Public Works Department is not likely to have any big famine works on hand.

THE DEWAN.—But what harm is there in opening some big works too? For instance, the *Nidsale* project.

THE COMPTROLLER.—We should not commit ourselves to any large expenditure.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER.—Perhaps Markonhalli project may be taken instead of the Nidsale project.

THE DEWAN.—The next item is about Medical relief. Can you have men, if need be, for Medical relief in the affected tracts?

Medical Relief.

COLONEL SMYTH.—I cannot afford to give any of my Hospital Assistants. We are already shorthanded. I can only move the dispensaries nearer the places where help is needed.

THE DEWAN.—What do you generally do for Medical relief during Famine.

COLONEL SMYTH.—We advertise and get men from outside the service.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—So long as people are kept in their own villages there will be no necessity for this kind of relief.

THE DEWAN.—Would it not be well to advertise for men and get information as to who are willing to take up temporary employment?

COLONEL SMYTH.—This may be done.

DEWAN.—The next item is about the increase of Police Force. Do you want additional men, Mr. Devaraj Urs?

Increase of Police Force.

MR. DEVARAJ URS.—A small additional Police Force will be required to prevent crime. We have to patrol roads. A small increase will perhaps do. But I would rather increase the number of totis and talaris.

THE DEWAN.—That is a good idea. You may settle it in consultation with the Revenue Commissioner.

MR. DEVARAJ URS.—Yes. For a single Police man's pay we can have three or four talaris.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—During the present season of distress, the Amildars will be very busy supervising the work of the shekdars. Test works and other relief works will also claim their attention. It is therefore better to relieve them of their Magisterial duties. These duties may be entrusted to Sub-Registrars wherever they are competent for undertaking such duties. Amildars may also require some good accountants. Else, the accounts might get confused. The Deputy Commissioner may also require a couple of additional hands.

Assistants to Sub-division Officers, Amildars, etc.

THE COMPTROLLER.—The Comptroller's office will send travelling auditors if necessary.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—But that is not enough.

THE DEWAN.—You may send proposals about special accountants.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think we may require as many shekdars more as there are now.

THE DEWAN.—You may suggest some means to relieve the shekdars.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—The hoblis will have to be split up. There is provision in the Famine code for it.

THE DEWAN.—Send in your requirements. Let us now pass on to the next point, namely, the reserve of tools.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—For the villages there generally is a certain number of tools which the villagers bring with them. When there is a requisition we shall have to supply them. There is a small stock of tools in the district head-quarters.

Reserve of tools.

THE DEWAN.—I think there is nothing lost in supplying necessary tools to the different taluk head-quarters in the affected tracts. You may do this at once.

THE CHIEF ENGINEER.—I have no tools for boring wells, etc.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think each set costs about Rs. 1,000 and each district may be supplied with a set.

THE DEWAN.—You may do that, Mr. McHutchin. Let us now pass on to the subject of finance—remission and suspension of land revenue.

THE COMPTROLLER.—Why not suspension of land revenue come at the earliest stage instead of remission? We may have suspension at the first stage.

Remission and suspension of land revenue.

THE DEWAN.—No, that would not do. We are dealing with cases where there is a more or less total failure of crops.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—We are now giving remissions under tanks where no crops were raised but not under springs and kapile wells, where the crops may fail equally. There is no principle in this distinction and the concession should be extended to both the cases. The remission is given not on account of the existence of famine but on account of the failure of crops according to the principles laid down by Government. I would suggest that the concession be extended also to garden lands where no crops are realized. The amount will not be very much. It is only the remission of half the wet land revenue on the recognized principles.

THE COMPTROLLER.—The other half is also suspended and there is thus practically no collection. The total wet assessment is something like 45 lakhs.

THE 2ND COUNCILLOR.—But this rule would apply to a small area in the parts affected.

THE DEWAN.—Let us have an estimate of the probable requirements under this head.

THE COMPTROLLER.—But the principle may be adopted of having suspensions now and remissions later, if necessary.

THE DEWAN.—We shall pass orders after getting estimates made of the amount that may have to be remitted if the principles adopted in the previous years are followed. Let us now go to the question of hulbanni.

Remission of hulbanni.

MR. KUMARASWAMI NAIK.—Though the hulbanni proposed to be remitted is very small in amount still the remission will be greatly appreciated by the raiyats.

Refund of license fees for grazing.

DEWAN.—There is no objection to it. Refund of license fees levied for grazing is not necessary. The next item is the remission of license fees for collecting fire-wood.

THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.—As it is, the raiyats are allowed to take head-loads of fire-wood free and the license fee levied in other cases is so small that it would not be of substantial benefit to any one except to traders in fuel.

THE DEWAN.—Persons in affected tracts may employ bullocks in bringing fire-wood and thus you may be helping the raiyats.

THE CONSERVATOR.—I do not understand how the raiyats could be benefited by the remission.

MR. CHENGIAH CHETTY.—Many people asked me in the Hiriyur Taluk to be allowed to remove fire-wood free.

DEWAN.—I think we may allow this remission also in the affected tracts and see if it will be really appreciated.

DEWAN.—We now pass on to the remission of Mohatarfa.

Remission of Mohatarfa.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—All people paying a Mohatarfa tax of less than eight annas may be exempted.

THE DEWAN.—The next point deals with the advances of Potgi to be given to village officers.

Advances to village officers.

THE COMPTROLLER.—In certain specified portions of the affected tracts, it may have to be given, but not as a matter of course. The district officers should use their discretion and see that they are given in very deserving and exceptional cases. The first instalment may be given at the end of December and the next at the end of March.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—Yes, but what about the kandayam on Manyam lands?

MR. DORASWAMI IYER.—We treat them like other lands of a similar description as a matter of course. The lands are fully assessed.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I think that during the last season the kandayam was not remitted in the case of Shanbhogi inams. It is only the inam lands that do not get any remission. I think we need not take this point into consideration now. One instalment of advances may be given in January and the other in March.

THE DEWAN.—The next item is as regards the payment to totis and the principles on which they should be made. You will settle this, Mr. Devaraja Urs, with the Revenue Commissioner and submit your proposals to Government.

Payment to totis.

The next item, namely, the employment of literate men in clerical and other work as already been discussed. We shall next consider the question of making arrangements for securing regular supplies of grain.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER.—I wish to suggest that some advances may be given to particular merchants for the purpose of holding some quantity of grain say about 10 or 20 pallas, in reserve. This is specially necessary at small village santes which are the only source of supply to the neighbouring villages. If at any time, either because of a lack of food-supply or because of the very high prices charged for them, the villagers are unable to purchase their weekly stock of provisions these merchants will be required to bring out their reserve and thus meet what would be a bad situation. The Deputy Commissioners will have to settle details with the local merchants. The cost may be estimated at about 40 or 50 thousand rupees. In the Kolar District they are importing grain from other adjoining districts. There is not much export now as prices have risen.

Advances to merchants for storing grains.

DEWAN.—Passing over the next two items which have been already discussed, we come to the last item about the imprest to Amildars.

There is a proposal from the Revenue Commissioner to place an imprest of Rs. 300 in the hands of the Amildars. This is provided for in Section 70 of the Famine Code, under which they may be given an imprest of Rs. 100.

Imprest to Amildars.

THE COMPTROLLER.—Of course all Famine Officers have to be given advances. We may leave that to the discretion of the Deputy Commissioners. The advances may be given to the district officers who may distribute them among charge Superintendents and Circle officers according to needs. The district officers should be held responsible to Government for the adjustment of these advances.

G.P.B.—500—4-1-09.